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ARAB TIMES



22 PAGES 150 FILS

Armed struggle must go on, Mandela tells South Africans

'Freedom for all'

One dead, 200 wounded in violent clashes with shotgun police



Mandela and his wife Winnie salute well-wishers as he leaves Victor Verster prison. (Reuter wirephoto)

Stench of death hangs heavy

Aoun, Geagea ignore truce call: Beirutis scamper for food

BEIRUT, Feb 11. (Agencies):

Rival Christian forces battled in Beirut's rain-drenched alleyways and the mountains northeast of the capital today as civilians ran a gauntlet of sniper fire into the Muslim sector to buy food and water for their trapped families.

Rebel Gen. Michel Aoun's troops and Lebanese Forces militiamen led by Samir Geagea ignored two ceasefire calls to end their 13-day-old war for mastery of the Christian enclave north of

Beirut.

It is the bloodiest fighting between Christian forces since the civil war between Lebanon's Muslims and Christians erupted in 1975.

Police said at least eight people were killed and 17 wounded.

Aoun's headquarters reported 12 soldiers and four officers killed in the last two days.

That raised the casualty toll since fighting erupted Jan. 30, when Aoun moved against

Geagea, to at least 457 killed and 1,701 wounded.

Shell-battered hospitals packed with casualties made fresh radio appeals for blood, plasma, oxygen and water as supplies ran low.

In some districts of Christian

East Beirut, the stench of death

hung in streets where decomposing

bodies have lain for days.

Civil defence teams have not been able to remove them because of fierce sniper fire.

Hundreds of frightened civilians dodged bullets and sprinted across the city's dividing Green Line. Many risked their lives to buy bread and drinking water for their families trapped in underground shelters and basements by the fighting.

Others who made it across the three-mile (5-kilometre) demarcation line stayed in the Syrian-policed Muslim sector, which is outside the combat zone.

(Continued on Page 12)

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Details inside page



PRESENTED BY:
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Weather

FAIR weather with light to moderate northwesterly wind.
State of sea: Slight to moderate
High water: 1.00 am, 2.00 pm
Low water: 8.00 am, 8.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.31 am
Sunset: 5.34 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 19°C 66°F
Ahmadi: 17°C 63°F
Fulaij: 18°C 64°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 6°C 43°F
Ahmadi: 9°C 48°F
Fulaij: 9°C 48°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 19°C 66°F
Ahmadi: 18°C 64°F
Fulaij: 18°C 64°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 95 per cent
Ahmadi: 60 per cent
Fulaij: 78 per cent

(See Page 2)



Free Catalogue

To our
subscribers:

On the occasion of the "8TH MODERN HOUSE" exhibition, Arab Times are pleased to announce that a copy of the 1990 IKEA catalogue will be distributed FREE, with our issue of Tuesday, February 13th, 1990.

We regret that this service is only available to our subscribers.

Tomorrow!



Praise for Oman architecture
Amir visits sites

MUSCAT, Feb 11. (Kuna): HH the Amir of Kuwait commenced the second day of his official three-day visit to Oman sultanate today by visiting the Bahla and Nazwa historical regions.

HH, accompanied by Omani Sultan Qaboos Bin Said, toured the historical fortress of Jibreen, 230 kms away from capital Muscat.

The fortress was built by Yalrah Bin Suhail in 1670 to serve as a palace for his residence with its various rooms decorated in a manner mirroring genuine and fine art.

The Amir then visited the Tanuf valley where he was acquainted on old and modern systems of irrigation in Oman.

Writing in the visitors book, the Amir marvelled Oman's traditional architecture and ingenuity representing part of the Sultanate's glorious history.



What a fall!

James Douglas reigned as undisputed heavyweight boxing champion of the world for just six hours on Sunday after knocking out Mike Tyson in one of the sport's greatest upsets.

Douglas, written off by the pundits before the scheduled 12-round bout, recovered from an eighth-round knockout to floor in the 10th the previously undefeated Tyson, (top), seen with his mouthpiece falling out and (above) on the shoulders of one of his men.

But only six hours later the sport's governing bodies said they would not recognise the result because of a controversy over the eighth-round count.

Moylan counted to nine before Douglas scrambled to his feet but the timekeepers said he should have started his count at four on the signal.

"The WBA and WBC and (Tyson promoter) Don King can go to hell as far as I'm concerned," said Douglas' manager John Johnson.

He said he would add the International Boxing Federation (IBF) to that list if they joined in the WBA and WBC stance. The IBF was not represented at the news conference where the WBA and WBC announced their position.

DAY BY DAY

I CANNOT understand the wisdom behind the ban on imports of used cars older than two years.

Why should the poor or limited-income people be deprived of getting cars at reasonable prices, particularly when the period of five years previously allowed does not make the cars look old. Many of these five-year old cars are in good condition, particularly those used sparingly in their countries of origin.

Import of used cars is a measure to extend facilities to consumers and reduce the burden on the limited income group.

Zahid Matar

INTERNATIONAL

Opposition threatens to cripple Pakistan Parliament

ISLAMABAD, Feb 11. (AP): Pakistan's opposition promised today to paralyse an already crippled National Assembly in retaliation for what it called a premature end to debate on the troubled Indian state of Jammu-Kashmir.

In a prepared statement, Pakistan's hostile opposition promised that "in the future, opposition members in both houses would not co-operate with the government on any schedule or agenda for the Parliament."

Pakistan's National Assembly has passed no major legislation in more than a year and, with the

opposition's latest promise of non-co-operation, is unlikely to pass anything substantive in the next few months.

A government spokesman could not be reached for comment.

Bickering between the ruling party, led by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, and her opposition of right-wing, centrist and religious parties, has crippled the National Assembly, which has been unable to agree even on committee memberships, said one parliamentarian, requesting anonymity.

The National Assembly, dominated by Benazir's

party and the Senate, controlled by her opposition, held its first joint session yesterday to debate a resolution of support for Muslim militants fighting to separate the Himalayan state of Kashmir from India, be independent or join Pakistan.

Benazir called the joint session but when it was ended after a three-hour sitting, her opposition charged her with betraying "the spirit of democracy."

The outburst followed violence last week in the southern port of Karachi between supporters of the ruling party and the Mobarik Quami Movement,

representing Indian immigrants to Pakistan following independence from Britain in 1947.

Each political party blamed the other for violence that left up to 67 people dead and almost 200 wounded.

A formerly of Benazir's, the MQM, joined her opposition last October and pledged 14 critical National Assembly seats to her opponents, who tried to unseat her with a no-confidence vote in November. Her party narrowly survived.

Since taking power in December 1988, Benazir's party has waged a pitched battle with the opposi-

tion, which dominates Pakistan's powerful Punjab province.

Its Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif, former ally of Pakistan's late military president Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, vowed to unseat Benazir. Her party made an identical promise.

But political rhetoric is heating up, and observers predict it may be an attempt to force President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to insist Benazir seek a confidence vote.

A disputed clause in Pakistan's constitution suggests the President may have the power to make

that demand sometime before March 20. So far he has not given his interpretation, but has said both the opposition and government forgo their constant bickering.

However, neither side has taken any steps toward mending fences.

"If the government has decided to adopt an arbitrary and unilateral approach toward the functioning of Parliament, which is tantamount to a total betrayal of the spirit of democracy, then the opposition would be within its rights to pursue its own course," said the release.

Food poisoning

20 die in Madhya Pradesh

NEW DELHI, Feb 11. (Reuters): At least 20 villagers died of suspected food poisoning after a community feast in central India, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said today.

PTI said 150 others were admitted to hospital with symptoms of food poisoning soon after the party at Supa in Madhya Pradesh state yesterday. It did not give further details.

In other developments at least 18 people were killed and 50 injured when a bus collided with a truck in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh yesterday, a news agency reported.

Press Trust of India said the accident occurred near Farrukhabad. It said most of the victims were pilgrims returning from a ritual Hindu bath in the river Ganges, 50 kilometres (30 miles) from the accident site. It was not clear if all the victims were in the bus.

Troops enforce Srinagar curfew

Govt braces for violence

SRINAGAR, Feb 11. (Agencies): Troops patrolled the curfew-bound city of Srinagar today to prevent demonstrations commemorating the sixth anniversary of the execution of a Muslim separatist leader.

The streets of Srinagar were deserted after the government announced a round-the-clock curfew would be enforced today.

Witnesses who spoke on condition of anonymity said dozens of army trucks carrying soldiers rolled into Srinagar late Friday.

Troops took up positions on Srinagar's outskirts and all vehicles entering the city were stopped and searched.

Wall posters appeared in several parts of Srinagar overnight, calling for demonstrations to commemorate the execution of militant leader Mohammad Maqbool Butt.

Butt was hanged in New Delhi on Feb 11, 1984, for the 1965 murder of an intelligence agent in Kashmir.

Butt founded the Jammu-Kashmir Liberation Front, which is spearheading a violent campaign for secession from predominantly Hindu India of the Himalayan state of Jammu-Kashmir, the country's only Muslim majority state.

The four-decade-old movement is based in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu-Kashmir state and its largest city. Jammu region, south of Kashmir, is Hindu dominated.

At least 82 people have died in the latest round of secessionist violence in Kashmir, which flared Jan 20 when Muslim mobs took to streets and clashed with security forces. Most victims were protesters defying curfew, who were shot by police or troops.

"We want a peaceful solution but at the same time Pakistan



Benazir Bhutto

cannot be intimidated," Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto warned India during a 30-minute speech to more than 200 Pakistani lawmakers yesterday.

Benazir rejected India's accusations that Pakistan has fomented the two-month-old rebellion in its troubled northwestern state.

"This revolution has not come from outside, it has come from the heart of the people," she said. "It is a war of freedom."

Leader of the combined opposition parties Ghulam Mushtaq Jatoi in his speech to the house said that the entire nation was united in support of the Kashmiri people. He said all the efforts prime minister was making in support of the Kashmiri people had the fullest backing of the opposition.

He, however, thought that a concerted offensive should be launched to mobilise public opinion in favour of the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people. This would put lots of pressure on India to fulfil its commitment of a un-organised plebiscite to decide the future of the disputed state.

Quz Hudaib Ahmed, leader of Jamaat Islami group in the Parliament said the Indian government could not suppress the freedom struggle of the Kashmiri people who had risen against Indian occupation with renewed vigour and strategy.

Khan Abdul Wali Khan, leader of the Awami National Party, said in the present world no dispute could be solved through war. He pleaded for the resolution of the Kashmir issue through talks under the Simla accord between Pakistan and India.

Karachi kidnap

Activists swapped

KARACHI, Feb 11. (Reuters): Rival political groups in the Pakistani city Karachi swapped 39 kidnapped activists today after two days of armistice brokered by India.

The release of 18 activists of the ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and nine from the Muttahid National Movement (MQM) followed four days of violence in which at least 70 people died.

"Most of them were limping but able to walk on their own feet," a policeman said. One had been shot in the knee.

Leaders of both parties welcomed the release, organised according to official sources, by senior army officers to help bring the curfew-bound city back to normal.

The death toll rose by two today, the fifth day since a riot erupted on Wednesday after a MQM called a general strike to protest at the abduction of its supporters.

Kashmir: from bricks to rockets

Toughest challenge

SRINAGAR, India, Feb 11. (AP): Three years ago they threw stones at Indian security men. At the first sign of retaliation they would run for cover and flee into the narrow lanes of Srinagar, only waving clenched fists as a gesture of defiance.

But today's Kashmiri militants, most of them in their 20s, flash Kalashnikov rifles and make Molotov cocktails in their homes. Intelligence reports say they have acquired rocket launchers and even Stinger missiles.

Armed Muslim activists campaigning for Kashmir's independence are battling an estimated 40,000 Indian soldiers.

"India now faces the risk of fighting a prolonged guerrilla war in Kashmir," said a retired colonel of the Indian Army. "And like most other guerrilla war situations, the odds are in favour of the terrorists." He spoke on condition of anonymity.

"Over the years these terrorists have graduated into becoming real fighters, not in the conventional sense, but as guerrillas," said Jitendra Narain Saxena, the director general Jammu-Kashmir's 40,000-man police force.

"Before the police could just scare them away. But today they stand up and try to defy," Saxena said.

Saxena would not discuss the reasons for the change of mood in Kashmir, where analysts say India faces the toughest challenge to its unity in the country's 42 years of independence.

But Gov. Jagmohan, the area's administrator, ruled out any threat to India's sovereignty.

"The issue is very simple," he said in an interview at his home guarded by Indian troops manning light machine gun positions behind bunkers. "There was lack of economic development, people are frustrated.

"Once we set things right, Kashmir will again become 'Janat' (heaven)," said Jagmohan, who uses only one name.

In the wave of separatist violence that began Jan 20 with the arrest of over 250 people, at least 82 people have died. Jagmohan, a Hindu known as a tough administrator, ordered the Jan 20 crackdown.

The killings and open defiance by the militants triggered a near panic in the administration. Curfew was imposed for days, the army was called out and foreign journalists expelled from the state. Curfew passes granted to local journalists were withdrawn and Indian journalists working for foreign media were confined to hotels.

Jammu-Kashmir, home of 6 million people, is India's only Muslim majority state.

Nationwide, analysts account for about 11 per cent of the country's 880 million people. But in the Kashmir Valley, the stronghold of the militants, Muslims make up 94 per cent of the 3.5 million people.

Kashmir became part of the Mogul Empire when Akbar invaded the area in 1585. The Afghans annexed it in 1751. The Sikhs came in 1819. A Hindu king took it over in 1846.

When Britain divided the subcontinent in 1947 into Islamic Pakistan and Hindu-dominated India, Kashmir was given the choice to either remain independent or join either of the two nations. After initial hesitation, the king joined India and triggered a Pakistani armed invasion.

A brief war followed and India claims that of the 222,236 square kilometres (86,894 square miles), Pakistan is in "illegal occupation" of 76,932 square kilometres (31,572 square miles). New Delhi also alleges that Pakistan gave 42,572 square kilometres (17,094 square miles) of territory to China when Islamabad and Beijing signed a boundary agreement.

"We are giving too much importance to the terrorism," said a senior Indian intelligence officer in Kashmir.

"There is no way that they can fight the Indian forces in a decisive battle," the officer said on condition of anonymity.

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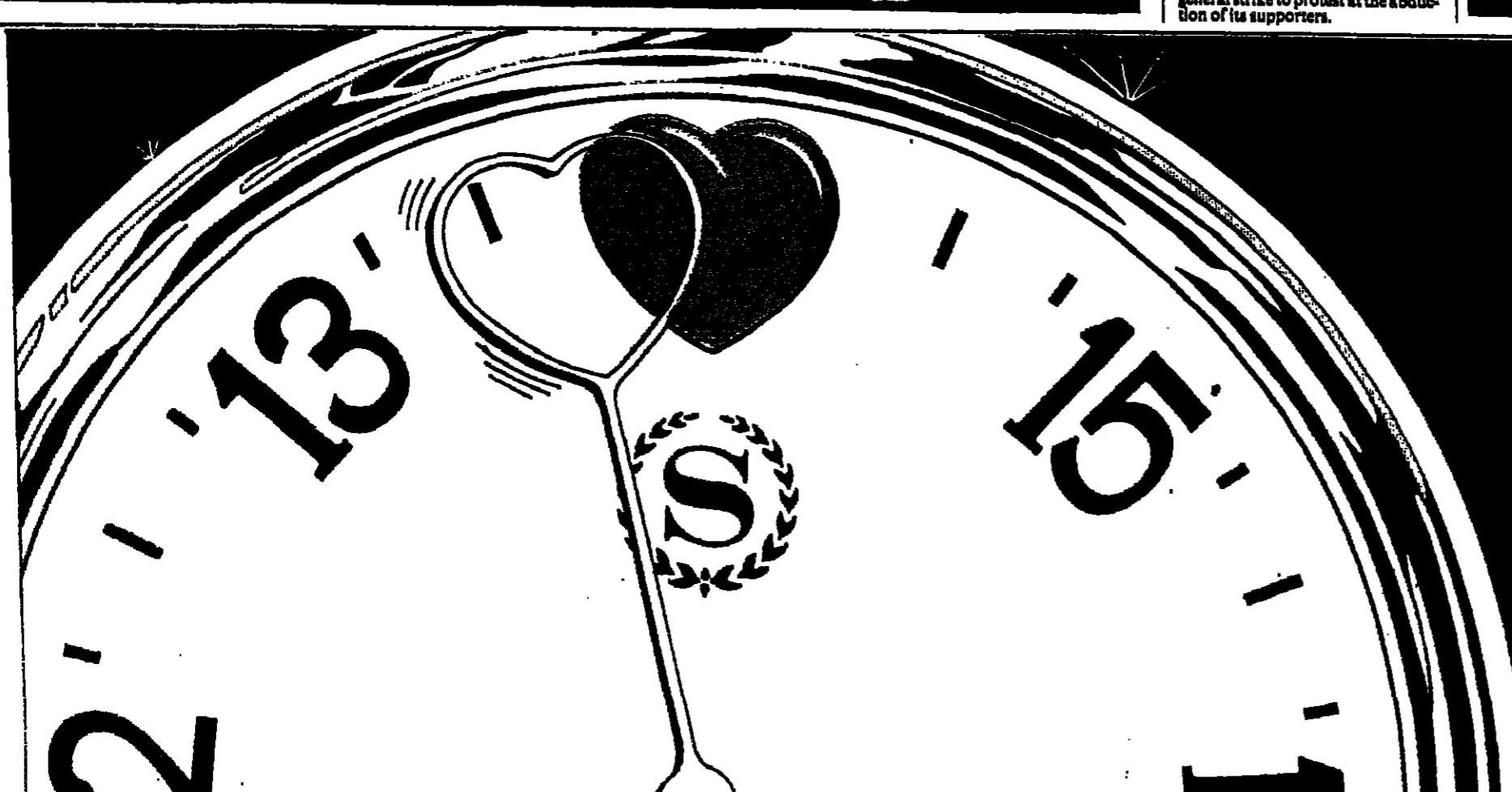
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JOYCE LEE

Galileo camera problem traced

PASADENA, California, Feb 11. (UPI) — A computer glitch aboard the Galileo Jupiter probe Saturday that caused the robot's primary camera to malfunction after an otherwise flawless flyby of Venus apparently was triggered by an easily fixed programming error, officials said.

Engineers at the jet propulsion laboratory spent the day studying the problem to figure out what caused the \$1.4 billion probe's camera shutter to erroneously open and close after the probe streaked past Venus late Friday.

Later Saturday, JPL spokesman Robert MacMillin said the problem was traced to a computer programming error in commands that had been radioed to the probe from earth — an easily corrected problem, although engineers did not expect soon to know the results of their troubleshooting.

"It's in the command sequence that was sent up," he said. "Somewhere in the entire Venus science sequence, not enough time was allowed between some of the sub-sequences. It was off by a matter of several seconds. That resulted in the erroneous commands from the computer."

He said Galileo managers decided to turn the camera back on late Saturday to take a series of 38 pictures of Venus as originally planned, adding "it's looking pretty good. They're really not very worried. There's no problem with either the command computer or the camera."

The brief scare was the only snag in an otherwise perfect flyby of Venus, a major milestone on the road to a 1995 encounter with Jupiter.

Using the cloud-shrouded planet's gravity for a slingshot-like boost back toward Earth and ultimately on to Jupiter, the 1,600-pound (2,300-kg) Galileo spacecraft sailed within about 10,000 miles (16,000 km) of Venus's hellish 900-degree (480 C) surface at 9:59 pm PST Friday (0559 GMT Saturday).

The "gravity assist" flyby boosted Galileo's velocity relative to the sun by about 4,990 mph (8,030 kph), to some 88,740 mph (142,810 kph), and put the craft on course for a Dec. 8 flyby of Earth, the first of two required to finish boosting the craft's speed high enough to reach Jupiter.

Galileo's high-tech instruments and sensors were operating throughout the Venus flyby, gathering important data about the second planet from the sun in a critical milestone.

But engineering data radioed from Galileo early Saturday indicated its camera system was receiving computer commands that were causing its lens shutter to open and close, twice per minute, when it was not supposed to be operating at all.

For several hours, starting at around 1:41 a.m., Galileo's command data subsystem computer ordered the solid-state television camera to open and close its shutter twice per minute. By the time the camera was turned off at 4:30 a.m. on command from Earth, 468 camera shutter cycles had been completed when only 16 had been expected.

Trump's wife calls it quits, dumps hubby

NEW YORK, Feb 11. (UPI) — Billionaire real estate magnate Donald Trump is being dumped by his wife, Ivana, because he betrayed her, a published report said today.

Quoting unnamed sources close to the high-profile couple, the New York daily news said Mrs. Trump has decided to call it quits after a dozen years of marriage.

"Donald was betraying her," according to sources quoted by the Daily News.

Mrs. Trump is a former model who was born in Vienna and raised in Prague. The couple met at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal and married a year later.

They have two sons and a daughter.

"The Donald," as Trump, 43, is called by his wife, was in Tokyo for the Mike Tyson-James Douglas heavyweight title fight. He could not be reached for comment on the report.

The News also said Trump has, in the past, been romantically linked to actress Catherine Oxenberg.

Love no longer blind: women seeking premarital probes

TOLEDO, Ohio, Feb 11. (UPI) — Premarital background investigations are becoming more common, suggesting that love is no longer blind.

The director of the national association of investigative specialists said its survey of a dozen high-volume investigative agencies showed the number of premarital background investigations jumped 800 per cent in the past two years.

Ralph Thomas, director of the 1,000-member association based in Austin,

Galileo

Imports that Japanese just can't say 'no' to

TOKYO, Feb 11. (Reuters) — Japan may be criticised for closing its markets to outsiders, but there are some imports the Japanese cannot say "no" to — the superstars of sports and showbiz.

Boxer Mike Tyson and the legendary Rolling Stones are in Tokyo this week on a largely lucrative pilgrimage to the world's new entertainment and performance fee centre. Ex-Beatle Paul McCartney is due soon.

"Tickets to see these *gaijin* (foreigners) stars here go for up to eight times what they would cost in the United States," says a source at Nikkei Entertainment, a trade

journal for promoters.

In Japan, where cash flows plentifully but world-class entertainers and athletes run scarce, sponsors are willing to spend massive sums to have international names promote their products and their company image.

And the public seems to lap it up.

Boxing legend Tyson made his first overseas ride defence here in 1988, and came back to fight, and sensationalise, to little-rated challenger James "Buster" Douglas today.

To bring the likes of Tyson, the Rolling Stones or Michael Jackson over and have a little charisma rub off, Japanese media

industrial and financial sectors fight out their own big match behind the scenes.

A survey by the daily Mainichi Shimbun showed that 155 companies paid to sponsor competitions in golf, tennis, soccer, track and field and the marathon in 1989, up from 41 in 1981.

A form of sponsorship called "Kaunuri Kogyo" — literally "crowned entertainment" — has made it possible for the Japanese to enjoy heartthrobs and idols, still confined to glossy pages and videos for most of their fellow Asians, in real, live person.

But the existence of these sponsors don't make the tickets any cheaper.

"Japanese still have to pay a lot to see stars, despite the big corporations dishing out to get them here," says one public relations executive at CBS Sony, the Rolling Stones' recording company.

"And not all of it can be justified on air fares and accommodation. What it comes down to in the end is the enormous amounts we pay the stars."

Sponsoring companies are tight-lipped about what the entertainers cost them because they often lose money, entertainment sources say.

Organisers of the Tyson-Douglas fight had seating capacity at Tokyo Dome expanded to 63,000, with admission prices ranging from 5,000 yen (\$35) to 150,000 yen (\$1,029). On the day, however, attendance was a disappointing 40,000.

Whatever the crowd guarantees from the promoters and television are expected to mean a minimum payday of some \$9 million for the Tyson camp and three million for new champion Douglas.

The Stones concert, an immediate sell-out, are expected to cost the various companies involved — corporate sponsors, ticket distributors, television and broadcasting companies and the venue — a whopping six billion yen (\$41 million).

"My understanding is out of that, about 4.5 billion (\$31 million) goes to the Rolling Stones' people," the source at Nikkei Entertainment said.

A sure-fire media hit like the Stones, touted as "the last big stars yet to perform in Japan" since immigration officials barred lead singer Mick Jagger in 1970s because of drug involvement, can just name their price, sources said.

Now Toyota Motor Corp. and Minolta Camera Co. have flown in Mike Tyson while Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. presents the Rolling Stones.



Cleaning up

An oil cleaning expert uses a suction pump to attempt to collect some of the oil that reached slick from the Spanish oil tanker Aragon that lost some of the fuel last Jan 15 off the coast of Funchal, Madeira Islands, shores Feb 9. The oil

slick is from the Spanish oil tanker Aragon that lost some of the fuel last Jan 15 off the coast of Funchal, Madeira Islands, shores Feb 9. (Reuters wirephoto)

Woman has baby in subway

Express delivery

NEW YORK, Feb 11. (UPI) — A very pregnant woman waiting for a train on a subway platform made an express delivery — a baby boy.

With the help of transit police alerted by 911, Sydell Goldstein, 18, delivered her baby on a 7th avenue subway platform in Manhattan shortly before 5 pm yesterday, said Al O'Leary, a transit police spokesman.

Transit officer Thomas Breyer, 35, explained that when they arrived at the scene the mother's "water" had broken and the baby's feet were visible.

Breyer said his partner, Jerry Lofredo, 24, noticed the umbilical cord was wrapped around the baby's head. "He slipped the cord over his head and then pulled him all the way out," Breyer said.

WASHINGTON: Senator Bill Bradley, Democrat of New Jersey, was an all-American basketball player and a star on the New York Knicks championship team in the 1970s but he chose not to play last week in a game between members of Congress and a women's team that included former Olympians like Nancy Lieberman-Cline, Vicki Bullet and Anne Donovan. Instead, Bradley donned a black-and-white striped shirt and referred the game, which the women won, 58-39.

"I've taken over the role of official and I don't play front of people anymore," Bradley said. (UPI)

LOS ANGELES: Three members of the now-defunct heavy metal rock group Dokken won a preliminary injunction that will prevent the group's founder, Don Dokken, from using the name Dokken to start a solo career. Los Angeles Judge John Zehewski ruled that a contract signed by all four band members prevents Don Dokken from using his last name on future recordings because the name became the joint property of the partners when they signed the contract. (UPI)

BEVERLY HILLS: Sting and Bruce Springsteen are among the big names lined up for an Evening in

Brazil, an exclusive fund-raiser sponsored by the Rainforest Foundation and the Environmental Media Association. Producer Ted Field and his wife, Sesile, are hosting the Monday night gala for 1,000 people in their Beverly Hills mansion. Musicians Herbie Hancock and Bradford Marsalis also are scheduled to perform and Billy Crystal, Goldie Hawn and Ted Danson are on the guest list. (UPI)

NEW YORK: Movie star Anthony Quinn underwent what was described as a "routine" coronary bypass without complications at Mount Sinai hospital.

The doctor said that he has a very strong heart, said Kathy Beavis, Quinn's assistant. "They anticipate a very unevenful recovery and they feel that he will have no trouble continuing his career."

Opfer said the slippery marine mammal wandered into this logging town three times Tuesday.

The first two times it was herded into a creek and back into Oakland Bay, an arm of Puget Sound. The third time the seal was spotted near the library, eight blocks from the water and heading uphill. Attempts

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Please, not in front of my yard

WASHINGTON, Feb 11. (UPI): An aluminium village for the homeless is going up across the street from an expensive Washington apartment complex, but the high and mighty who live there are telling the city: "Not in my front yard."

The object of their dismay is a cluster of seven white trailers tucked into a small triangle in view of the Watergate, some of the loftiest apartments in the capital city. Labour Secretary Elizabeth Dole and her husband Sen. Bob Dole, the most powerful Republican in the Senate, live in the Watergate. So do authors, high-ranking military people, big-name journalists.

The three apartment buildings and a condominium building flank the Watergate office building, which gained fame in 1972 when burglars organised by former President Richard Nixon's re-election committee were caught red-handed inside Democratic Party headquarters.

The Watergate residents have filed suit to block the shelter for the homeless.

The seven trailers, hooked up to sewer and power lines, are behind the Howard Johnson's motel on Virginia Avenue — also a bit player in the Watergate saga as the site where the burglars placed their lookout with the recording equipment for bugs they planted in the Democrats' offices.

The trailers are ready for occupancy by up to 108 men and women, many of them now living on team grates, patches of grass, benches and doorways in the area.

The 680 at the Watergate don't come straight out and say "we don't want to house the homeless."

Their lawsuit against the district of Columbia is more discreet, based on a claim that the city failed to run the shelter idea past the fine arts commission, which decides in certain areas whether a structure is appropriate.

Federal judge Oliver Gasch handed the residents a setback this past week by refusing to block work on the site. He said the area is outside the jurisdiction of the fine arts commission. The residents still can appeal the judge's ruling.

"What I would like to know is exactly what neighbourhood they would like to send these folks to," says Lois Williams, an attorney for the homeless.

The taxpaying residents have an answer, through their lawyer, Vernon W. Johnson: a softball field four blocks away would be ideal.

In truth, many of the Watergate residents don't have much to look at anyway. The trailers are on a small patch of ground between the motel and a highway entrance ramp. And beyond that is a less-than-scenic pretzel of converging ramps and overpasses, with a few grates venting heat from a nearby power plant.

"It don't make a damn to me whether they open that shelter, I got my grates," said a tall, blue-eyed man named Mohawk, who's been living on the streets of the neighbourhood for 10 years. Still, the 62-year-old Mohawk said the showers in one trailer sounded good to him.

Tight security for Bush

US taking no chances for drug summit

WASHINGTON, Feb 11. (UPI): Federal law enforcement authorities hope the Medellin cocaine cartel will keep its word this week and not try to shoot President Bush.

But they are taking no chances and plan massive security for Bush's trip Thursday to the drug summit in Cartagena, Colombia, which has the potential to be one of the most dangerous ever for a US president.

In recent months, there have been unconfirmed reports that the drug cartels have placed a \$30 million bounty on Bush's head and obtained shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles to shoot down Air Force One.

Colombia

Drug fund perverting elections

BOGOTA, Feb 11. (AP): A former Colombian justice minister says several ruling Liberal Party candidates for mayor and congress are financing their campaigns with drug money.

Sen. Hugo Escobar Sierra, a member of the opposition Conservative Party, made the accusations in a letter to Liberal Party President Julio Cesar Turbay published yesterday by Bogota's *La Prensa* newspaper. The letter did not specify which candidates he claimed were taking thousands of dollars in drug money.

Escobar Sierra said that Liberal Party candidates in the northern state of Magdalena were "perverting" elections for congress and mayoralities by buying off their opponents with funds generated by "illegal dealings," the phrase used to denote drug trafficking in Colombia.

He added that members of his own party were abetting the process by accepting bribes, and that the problem was affecting many campaigns in the state, including the mayoral race in its capital, Santa Marta.

Congressional and mayoral elections are to be held March 11.

Escobar Sierra served as justice minister in Turbay's 1978-1982 government, in which the government shared cabinet posts with the opposition.

Denunciation similar to Escobar Sierra's have been made previously in other states.

Another Conservative Party Senator, Rogelio Bolanos, said last week in an interview published in Bogota's *El Tiempo* newspaper that he would not run for re-election in his home state of Narino because he could not compete with his opponent's campaign financing.

The findings lend further support to the assumption that schizophrenia is a biologically based illness," Walker said.

Walker said the experiment looked over the past two years at the playful antics of some 200 pre-schizophrenic toddlers as depicted in early home films.

The scientists, with the help of neurologists, detected a variety of abnormalities such as awkwardly held arms and asymmetrical limb movements in the pre-schizophrenics, she said. Specifically, some

necessarily thinking other than it would be bad for business to try to harm the President.

"I don't believe the cartels — the Medellin or the rival Cali — will do anything," he said. "But perhaps a group of young toughs who want to make a name for themselves might try."

The one-day summit will bring Bush together with presidents of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. They will confer at a naval base secured by an undisclosed number of US service agents and 5,000 Colombian soldiers and police.

"If I'm Pablo Escobar I'd have to think that if I tried something against the President of the United States, I'd have a delta strike force on my back in a minute," said Charles Gutensohn, DEA chief of cocaine investigations.

Patrols

Over the past year, Colombia has been rocked by hundreds of drug-related bombings and scores of assassinations of judges, lawyers, politicians and journalists.

Last November, a Colombian airliner was downed by what authorities believe was a bomb placed by narco-traffickers. In December, an explosion at police headquarters in Bogota killed 63 and wounded 500 others.

In preparation for the summit, authorities have stepped up patrols in and around Cartagena, a walled coastal city. They have set up roads blocks, checked identifications and searched luggage.

The secret service ruled out an overnight stay and any motorcades. Bush will fly first to the Colombian city of Barranquilla, 60 miles north of Cartagena, and then travel by helicopter to the summit. Both Air Force One and his helicopter, Marine One, are equipped with anti-missile devices.

Dangerous

"The trip is too dangerous," says Sen. Patrick Leahy, Democrat of Vermont. "And I don't see where the profits are worth the risks."

But Bush said, "I'm not going to do something stupid or macho. I believe ... the security of the President can be protected on this naval base."

Barbara Bush said, "I wish the summit would be right here ... but I can't change his mind."

The secret service has told Bush it can protect him, but accompanying reporters have been warned that they travel at their own risk and to consider Colombia a "war zone."

Bush told journalists, "listen, nobody has to go to me. I'm the only one who's invited."

Symbolic

The summit will be largely symbolic. It will demonstrate a hemispheric commitment to battle drugs and a united support of Colombian President Virgilio Barco, who has led the battle in South America.

During the meeting, the four heads of state will formally sign a joint anti-drug strategy that representatives of their respective countries hammered out during the past three months.

Administration sources say the accord calls for increased US economic and military assistance to South America, in return for increased cocaine-fighting efforts by the three Andean nations.

The summit will be held in a presidential guest house on Mazzanillo island in the middle of Cartagena Bay. Nearby will be a Colombian *Hotels* equipped with anti-aircraft missiles.



Chamorro campaign

Opposition presidential candidate Violeta Chamorro salutes supporters during a campaign swing through poor areas of Managua Feb 7. Elections are scheduled for Feb 25. (Reuter wirephoto)

\$5.1 b surplus in banks

Cocaine cash floods Miami

MIAMI, Feb 11. (UPI): Drug traffickers have been laughing all the way to the bank, laundering hundreds of millions in cocaine profits through several city institutions despite the efforts of federal, state and local investigators.

A federal grand jury is investigating Republic National Bank in one of the most intensive money-laundering cases in US history, and at least five other banks are under scrutiny, the Miami Herald reported today.

The Herald's six-month investigation found that Miami leads the nation with a \$5.1 billion cash surplus in its banking system, a tell-tale sign of the drug trade. Drug agent Al Coward said: "I suspect the skyline of this town would change dramatically if there were no cocaine."

Another indication of the volume of drug money is that car dealers in Miami transact six times as much business in cash as do dealers in the slightly larger Tampa-St. Petersburg area, the state comptroller's office said. In the past four years, \$433.6 million in cash was spent on cars in the area.

The US Drug Enforcement Administration seized \$210 million in cash and property in Miami in 1989, compared with Los Angeles' \$159 million and \$95 million in New York.

Federal agents, using sophisticated computers and stringent new laws, have been concentrating on the drug money trail as never before. But money launderers have become more sophisticated, too, increasingly hiding money in bogus loans, offshore bank accounts, shell corporations and electronic wire transfers that can move cash around the world in moments.

Federal agents cracked the most sophisticated money-laundering network in the nation's history last spring, a ring that allegedly used a south Florida gold refiner and Los Angeles jewellers to hide \$1.2 billion in 18 months for the Colombian drug syndicate known as the Medellin Cartel.

"You can seize drugs all day long and never get past the middle level," said David Wilson, the DEA's top money-laundering expert. "By going after the money, you strike at the highest point in the drug trade."

The success of this strategy depends upon the success of the cocaine trade to generate cash at

Chamorro support growing every day

MANAGUA, Feb 11. (UPI): The main opposition coalition in the Feb 25 election has been hampered by fear, low funding, personal rivalry, ideological divisions and a presidential candidate with a fractured knee.

But it is drawing ever increasing crowds to its rallies, and its true strength may be even larger on election day.

The ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front's rallies are larger and better organised than those of the United National Opposition, but they are also salted with government employees who fear they would risk their jobs if they don't attend.

"You'll never see me at an Uno rally," said a 37-year-old Managua professional who spoke on condition of anonymity. "There's still a chance of violence, and who wants to get beaten up? But I'm voting for Uno. That's for sure."

The Uno candidate, Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, publisher of the opposition newspaper La Prensa, suffered a fractured knee on New Year's eve and has been campaigning from a wheelchair in the back of a pickup truck under a sun tent, looking like a saint at a procession," as one of her aides put it.

Attendance at Uno rallies has shot from several hundred into the thousands in the last three weeks — an estimated 7,000 in the town of Jinotega, 6,000 in Granada, 10,000 in Estelí, 7,000 in Rivas.

"I know some people will come by tomorrow to nag you about having come," said Mrs. Chamorro in Estelí, referring to the Sandinistas. "But just remember your vote is secret."

President Daniel Ortega, seeking another six-year term, has shed his sober image and campaigned vigorously in T-shirts and bomber jackets. The Sandinistas have also enlisted Alf, the US TV comedy character who is a favourite of Nicaraguan children.

Alf, a fuzzy space alien with a long snout, is pictured on wall murals as telling his planet Earth host Willy that he will vote Sandinista.

An inveterate cat-hater, Alf is also pictured squeezing the neck of a feline representative. Uno Sandinista spokesman said they did not know if Alf's creators had given their permission for the alien endorsement.

Noriega defence

All the presidents' papers to be sought

MIAMI, Feb 11. (Reuter): Lawyers for Manuel Noriega are seeking papers and diaries from five US presidents in an effort to defend the deposed Panamanian strongman against drug charges, according to court documents.

In a court motion unsealed late on Friday, the lawyers also said they would request documents from presidential briefings, information from US intelligence agents in such countries as Panama, Colombia and Cuba, and transcripts of Noriega's phone calls with foreign leaders, alleged to have been taped.

Lawyers for Noriega, who has been held in Miami since surrendering to invading US troops in Panama on January 3, said they wanted to see files and diaries belonging to Presidents George Bush, Ronald Reagan, Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford and Richard Nixon.

Noriega is accused of aiding Colombian drug traffickers and pocketing \$4.6 million in bribes.

The defence team has said a major part of its strategy would be to expose sensitive US documents showing Noriega's long association with US intelligence agencies, including those from the period when President George Bush was director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

US presidents generally claim executive privilege to avoid releasing personal papers in court cases.



Rubino (right) shown leaving federal court in Miami Feb 8. (Reuter wirephoto)

Schizophrenia: physical

No psychological factors

ATLANTA, Feb 11. (AP): Telltale signs of schizophrenia such as awkward limb movement have been spotted in home movies of children who later developed the serious mental illness, a researcher said.

The study conducted by clinical psychologists at Emory University is the latest in a series nation-wide supplying evidence that schizophrenia is caused by physical rather than psychological factors, said Elaine Walker, who designed the study.

"What we found is that there was an increased incidence of signs of motor dysfunction in the children who later became schizophrenic," Walker said. "Those kinds of signs tend to be associated with central nervous function problems."

"The findings lend further support to the assumption that schizophrenia is a biologically based illness," Walker said.

Walker said the experiment looked over the past two years at the playful antics of some 200 pre-schizophrenic toddlers as depicted in early home films.

The scientists, with the help of neurologists, detected a variety of abnormalities such as awkwardly held arms and asymmetrical limb movements in the pre-schizophrenics, she said. Specifically, some

of the awkwardness was exhibited in the way the subjects held their hands while walking.

The subjects were compared to their healthy siblings to discount the effect of common factors in their environments that may have explained the abnormal movements.

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of the awkwardness was exhibited in the way the subjects held their hands while walking.

In short order, Koltun and Persons extracted promises of financial support from old-line organisations including the New York Times.

"I got turned on by participating," recalled Times president Lance Trinett. "It's given the homeless a chance to do something. At least it certainly beats stepping over bodies on hot sidewalks."

In the six months since, Koltun said, 200 men and women have made enough money to find some sort of housing.

More than 1,000 vendors, many of them sporting Street News aprons, rags and caps, converge on a converted Blimpie's restaurant near Times Square.

Inside the tiny warehouse, walls plastered with movie posters, they wait patiently in line, some clutching fistfuls of cash to buy their bundles.

Then they head for the subways, competing for space already crowded by the city's vast corps of panhandlers.

One recent Tuesday afternoon, Goldstein picked up his daily allotment and cashed a token from a reporter to board the first subway car of his 7-hour workday.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I am not a panhandler, I am not a drug addict," he told the passengers. "This is a newspaper designed and produced for the city's homeless. A portion of the proceeds helps find permanent shelter for homeless men and women."

Persons, 33, doesn't give interviews, but Goldstein likes to remember Persons telling how he was struck by his brainstorm while walking one day through crowds of homeless people in grand central station.

"He said to himself, 'hey wait a minute, a homeless person can sell newspapers,'" Goldstein recalled.

Persons contacted Koltun, who a year ago was running her own small charity

Worldwatch report for 1990 predicts bleak times ahead

Less meat, more cycles for sound eco-future

WASHINGTON, Feb 11, (Reuters): A vegetarian meal in every pot, a solar heater on every roof and a bicycle in every garage are imperatives for an ecologically safe future, the Worldwatch Institute Environmental group said yesterday.

In its "state of the world" report for 1990, the Washington research group said a world dedicated to recycling, food and energy efficiency and slow population growth must be built within 40 years if modern civilisation is to survive.

"If we have not succeeded by 2030, environmental degradation and economic decline will be feeding on each other, causing social structures to disintegrate," said institute president Lester Brown.

Such declarations are not new for Brown, whose group has been predicting a dire fate in annual reports since 1984, and who is known for communicating via bicycle in a city where luxury cars are common.

This year's report devotes its final chapter to a detailed description of the "sustainable society" of tomorrow that Brown said is the Earth's last chance.

"A sustainable society is one that satisfies its needs without jeopardising the prospects of future generations," the Worldwatch report said.

It is filled with images of electricity-generating windmills in northern Europe, of solar water heaters meeting every household's needs, and of hydrogen-

powered cars and human-powered bicycles filling city streets.

Reducing dependency on fossil fuels will help forestall global warming caused by the atmospheric accumulation of carbon dioxide and other gases, which threatens to wreak havoc in world agriculture, Worldwatch said in the report.

Also, it said people in developed countries must get used to eating less as the food demands of a growing population will make it more difficult to use grains for feeding livestock or poultry.

The report offered the seemingly unappealing alternative of fish from sewage-fertilised ponds.

"A steady flow of nutrients from human waste

into ponds can supply food for a vigorously growing population of algae that in turn are consumed by fish," it said.

Brown said his ambitions for the world are more than fantasy, and that the technology he advocates is already available or within reach.

But essential to the plan is controlling population growth, the report said. Although the United Nations forecast a world population of nine billion people by 2030, that is about one billion too many for the available resources, it said.

Brown said his ambitions for the world are more than fantasy, and that the technology he advocates is already available or within reach.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Quake forecasters claim: Greek scientists have claimed a 75 percent success rate for an earthquake forecasting technique being tested in eight quake-prone countries.

"During the past year, several quakes measuring more than five on the Richter scale were predicted with reasonable precision as to the magnitude, the time and the epicentre location," said a statement from three Athens professors.

Their findings were presented to a conference on earthquake forecasting. The device, called Van, bases predictions on changes in the electrical field generated by movements in the earth's crust.

"By processing the measurements obtained from different locations it is possible to relate the date to an impending earthquake, obtaining at the same time its approximate epicentre, time and magnitude," said George Papadopoulos, head of the Athens University solid state physics department. (UPI)

Screening of doctors for drug use: The prestigious Johns Hopkins hospital, seeking to ensure a "drug-free environment," announced plans Thursday to become the nation's first hospital to routinely test doctors for drug and alcohol use.

Drug testing has become a growing practice among government workers and in transportation fields. But Johns Hopkins' plan for random screening is believed to be the first time tests have been imposed on doctors at a hospital, said Dr Hamilton Moses II, Hopkins vice-president for medical affairs. (UPI)

Texas drug bust largest ever: Authorities confiscated an estimated \$20 million worth of illegal narcotics from storage lockers on Saturday in what may be the state's largest drug seizure ever, officials said.

Undercover agents cut locks on two storage lockers and found 132 pounds (60 kg) of methamphetamine, or speed, with an estimated street value of \$20 million, said Summer Bowen, a supervisor with the Alamo area narcotics task force.

He said the seizure could be the largest in state history.

The discovery, follows Friday's raid on a San Antonio home that netted authorities thousands of weapons, ammunition and a small amount of methamphetamine and marijuana. (UPI)

Jesuit slaying under study: A US delegation of three senators and a state attorney-general arrived in San Salvador to assess the progress being made in the investigation of the slaying of six Jesuit priests, a US embassy spokesman said Saturday.

"The main objective of the legislators and the prosecuting attorney (during their stay) is to gather information about the country's situation and, in particular, about the judicial process in the case of the death of the Jesuits," the spokesman said. (UPI)

Perrier recalled

Benzene traces

GREENWICH, Conn., Feb 11, (Reuters): The US importers of Perrier, the fashionable French mineral water recalled when unacceptable traces of benzene were found in a small sample of bottles, said yesterday the product would be off the shelves for two to three months.

The company announced on Friday it was pulling all its current stocks of water from stores across the country. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the state of North Carolina had found the chemical benzene at levels above federal standards in a sampling of bottles of Perrier produced between June 1989 and January 1990.

Ronald Davis, president of the Perrier group of America Inc, said an estimated 72 million bottles of the water were involved in the recall. Regular and flavoured Perrier is sold at 750,000 outlets around the country, Davis told a news conference.

He said when the source of the benzene is found and corrected, "we will introduce our product to consumers. We're planning to be back on the shelves in two to three months."

Tests found benzene levels of 12 to 19 parts per billion in 13 product samples, a level the FDA says would not pose an immediate health hazard.

Cory to snub Cheney

Aquino backs ex-Moro rebel for governorship

MANILA, Feb 11, (AP): President Corazon Aquino said today she will refuse to meet Defence Secretary Dick Cheney during his visit to the Philippines next week following criticism of her administration by US officials and media.

Cheney, who left Washington for Hawaii last Saturday, is expected to arrive here Feb 18 as part of a tour of the Far East.

In her weekly national radio address, Aquino cited unfavourable reports in US newspapers following recent visits by Robert Gates, President George Bush's deputy national security adviser, and US Rep.

Jim Kolbe of Arizona.

"I've been thinking that (during such meetings) we talk of one thing and afterward something else is published in American newspapers," Aquino said.

Aquino said that because of "our sad experience of the last two visits," only Secretary of Defence Fidel Ramos would meet Cheney during his visit.

In Honolulu, Defence Department spokesman Pete Williams said Cheney's scheduled had not been "nailed down" and "it's unsure whether we'll see Aquino or not."

Aquino routinely meets with scores of foreign officials, legislators, educators and businessmen. Her refusal to meet with a US official of Cheney's rank would be highly unusual, considering Bush's support for her administration.

On Dec 1, US Air Force jets flew air cover in support of pro-government forces battling military mutineers trying to oust Aquino.

The two governments are expected to begin talks next month on extending the lease on the six US military bases, which expires next year.

Following Gates' visit here last month, US officials delivered rare public criticism of the Aquino administration. During testimony last month before the House subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence Carl Ford warned that the political situation here remains "unsettled".

During the same hearing, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State David Lamberson warned of the danger of a "new coup attempt and said that corruption was hampering government operations.

Following a visit here last January, Kolbe said: "Aquino favours retaining US bases but is in a 'very awkward position' politically because of others' opposition to them."

• Aquino visited thousands of refugees displaced by fighting in the southern Philippines today and backed a former rebel to be governor of a semi-autonomous Muslim region.

Aquino shook hands with Christian and Muslim evacuees in the grounds of a school a Pikit in Maguindanao province and allocated 13 million pesos (\$580,000) for their rehabilitation.

Maguindanao and three other provinces which have voted to form a semi-autonomous region will hold elections for governor, vice-governor and regional assemblymen on February 18.

Aquino told local officials she was supporting Zacaria Candao, a former MNLF rebel who returned to the government folds, as governor.

Manila quake kills 1, 25 hurt

MANILA, Feb 11, (AP): A strong earthquake that hit the central Philippines last week has triggered 1,233 aftershocks, officials said.

Officials of private and government relief agencies said that Thursday's earthquake, which measured intensity 6 on the open-ended Richter Scale, killed at least one person, injured 25 and left 18,500 people homeless.

Janet Sarmiento of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, said 48 of the aftershocks measured up to 4 on the Richter Scale. The others were too weak to be felt by residents but were recorded by instruments, she said.

On Thursday, a man was killed in quake-related destruction on Bohol Island, 655 kilometres (410 miles) southeast of Manila, the earthquake's epicentre. At least 1,530 thatched houses, five schools, nine bridges and a church tower were destroyed on the island, officials said.

In nearby Cebu province, 22 workers were injured when a vat of hot tar spilled at a construction site, officials said. At least three other people were slightly injured during a panic at a department store.

The open-ended Richter Scale measures the total strength of an earthquake and is calculated from readings of ground motion on seismographs. An earthquake registering 5 on the Richter Scale is considered "very strong" and 6 "severe," capable of widespread damage in populated areas.

Sightseeing copter, in flames, crashes: 1 hurt in NY

NEW YORK, Feb 11, (AP): A sightseeing helicopter carrying four tourists and a pilot caught fire and crashed into a river off New York City yesterday as it took off from a midtown heliport, police and witnesses said.

A 14-year-old passenger was in critical condition after the spectacular crash, which happened at about 3:15 pm (2015 GMT) and was watched by children standing a bar Mitzvah in a nearby restaurant. Rescuers pulled the other four shouting survivors from the water.

The pilot and three other adult passengers, including the injured boy's father, were taken with



Maddening crowd

Art lovers don't seem to mind the almost five-hour wait to gain access to El Prado Museum Feb 10 to visit the unprecedented Velazquez show. Thanks to rare loans from galleries and private collections throughout Europe and United States, Madrid's Prado Museum is offering an unrivaled display of the works by Spanish master Diego Velazquez.

(Reuter wirephoto)

Jakarta eruption toll 16

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Feb 11 (AP): An erupting volcano killed at least 16 people and injured 50 more as it destroyed 150 houses in east Java, a news agency said today.

The eruption of Mount Kelud at noon yesterday darkened the sky with a mammoth dust cloud as it spewed volcanic dust, sand and gravel. The cloud stretched for 30 miles (50 kilometres), Indonesia's official Antara news agency said today.

The erupting 1,731-metre (5,679-foot) volcano killed 15 people and severely injured 48 more in Bitar regency, the report said.

In Kediri regency west of the peak, one person was found dead and eight were injured, Antara said.

the boy to a hospital. The adults were all in stable condition suffering from exposure, said a hospital spokesman.

Police identified the injured boy as Robert Faller, of Hewlett, Long Island, and his father as Bernard Faller, 44, of Teaneck, New Jersey.

The other two passengers were Eric Denouf, 25, and Fabiana Gonet, 23, both of France, police said. Their hometowns were unavailable. The pilot was Charles Rodda, 29, of Plainview, Long Island, a police spokesman, Sgt. Pete Berry.

Police divers and a rescuer in a yellow life raft went out to save the passengers, with some of the

survivors holding onto a board extended by the boater until help arrived. Three rescuers were treated at a hospital for exposure.

Six firefighters and two police officers were treated at the scene for exposure.

Some witnesses said the Bell jet Ranger 206-L copter burst into flames after impact. Bus police said flame were visible before the copter touched water.

The National Transportation Safety Board was investigating the crash, said Kathleen Bergen, a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration.

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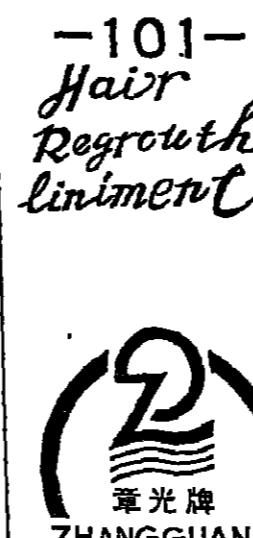
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Hail Mandela

Crowds holding banners of freed nationalist leader Nelson Mandela shout slogans outside the South African embassy in Paris.

Reds asked to end monopoly

Mongolians rally

BEIJING, Feb 11, (AP): Mongolian reformists called for an end to the Communist Party's monopoly on power today at a rally drawing thousands of people, sources said, days after its Soviet counterpart abandoned its constitutionally-guaranteed "leading role" in society.

About 4,000 to 5,000 Mongolians attended the three-hour demonstration in front of the Lenin Museum in Ulan Bator, said a foreign source contacted by telephone from Beijing.

It was the fifth demonstration called by the Mongolian Democratic Union, founded in December by artists and intellectuals.

The rally was called hastily late Wednesday or Thursday, the source said, after the Soviet Communist Party voted to relinquish its decades-old hold on political power.

Mongolia, ruled by communists since 1921 and long a client of the Soviet Union, cautiously has followed the Soviet lead in embracing reforms, but apparently not quickly enough for some of its citizens.

Some speakers today called for the resignation of President Jambyn Batmön and of the politburo and criticised Premier Dumaagiyn Sodnom by name for the nation's "stagnant" economy.

The source said the rally was peaceful, with almost no police or military presence. He said the museum apparently is not among sites where demonstrations were banned by the city council three weeks ago.

Historic summit
Open skies treaty

OTTAWA, Feb 11, (AP): After decades of hostility, foreign ministers from the 27 Nato and Warsaw Pact countries gathered today for a summit on President George Bush's proposal for an open skies treaty that would allow conditional unarmed surveillance flights.

It is hoped the treaty, which some believe could be signed at a follow-up meeting in Budapest later this year, will provide a boost to disarmament talks and pave the way for a new era of trust between the once sworn enemies.

"An open skies agreement will form the basis for an institutional framework that will carry us from the old era of cold war confrontation to a new one of genuine security," Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said in an open letter.

Japan poll system: no-one can change it

Candidates must battle not only rivals but also party colleagues

SAPPORO, Japan, Feb 11, (Reuters): What do you call an election when candidates must battle party colleagues as well as the opposition? For Shizuo Sato, campaigning to keep his seat in Japan's parliament, the answer is simple: "absurd."

"Everything bad about politics in Japan stems from our multi-seat constituency system," he said. "Politicians have to spend too much time doing things other than running the country."

On polling day, Feb 18, most voters will elect two to five candidates from each of their districts to represent them

in the lower house of the Diet. While individual voters only choose one candidate, it is normal for parties to field multiple runners in a district in hopes of picking up more seats in the chamber.

In the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, the system has nourished factionalism as candidates look to different party elders for support against local LDP rivals vying for the same pool of votes.

Sato's first Hokkaido District on Japan's northernmost main island returns six members to the lower house,

the most extreme example of this multi-seat system.

A majority in that house gives the right to form a government. The LDP has won that right in every election since 1955, though sometimes only with the help of independents.

Internecine party rivalries at the local level drag candidates away from the capital to campaign at home long before the official campaign starts.

For February's elections, Sato left Tokyo to pump hands in his constituency in early December, almost

two months before the chamber was dissolved.

All eight candidates fighting for the six seats of Hokkaido first said they would like to change to a single seat system.

"They've been calling for a change for decades," said Toshihiko Hara, a lecturer in social sciences at Hokkaido Tokai University. "But bringing about such a change is extremely difficult."

Tokyo-based LDP sources agree with Hara, saying a change to a single-

seat system would mean reducing the number of lower house seats, currently 512. No-one wants to volunteer to step down, the sources said.

As it stands, candidates rely more heavily on personal appeal — hand shaking and visits to voters' work places — rather than their stance on issues to be elected.

As such, said Hara, "the function of the election is not working properly," adding that without a proper discussion of issues during the campaign, elections don't reflect voters' majority

stance on problems facing the region and the nation.

Political analysts say the system has encouraged what the Japanese press has labelled "money politics" — the need for faction members to raise enormous sums in order to compete with others running on the same ticket.

A money-for-favours scandal involving parliamentarians and Japan's Recruit Co., a major publisher, contributed to the LDP's historic loss last summer — for the first time in three decades — of its majority in the less powerful upper house.

8 killed Thai-Burma border clash

BANGKOK, Feb 11, (UPI): Thai border forces killed eight Burmese soldiers and captured two others yesterday after a Burmese army unit crossed the frontier into Thailand while manoeuvring to attack a guerrilla camp inside Burma, military sources said.

The Burmese unit ignored warning shots and flares from the Thai forces and continued its incursion into Thai territory, prompting government border defence troops to open fire, a Thai officer said today.

The officer, reached by telephone in the Mae Sot District 250 miles (400 km) northwest of Bangkok, said the Burmese unit of about 250 soldiers forced the river into Thai territory about 1 am Saturday.

Japan women vote vital in polls

TOKYO, Feb 11, (AP): Despite their growing role in the work force and in society, women have been virtually locked out of any real power in Japan's biggest political party and there seems to be little they can do about it.

The governing Liberal Democratic Party does not have a single woman among its 325 endorsed candidates for the Feb. 18 election for the lower house of Parliament.

Women outnumber men by 2.7 million among Japan's 90 million eligible voters, and many observers believe they will play a pivotal role at the ballot box in deciding if the conservative party's 34-year rule will come to an end.

Women voters demonstrated their electoral clout last summer, when the ruling party lost its majority in the upper house. Women voted for opposition candidates to express their disapproval of the ruling LDP.

In that election, chairwoman Takako Doi of the main opposition Japan Socialist Party successfully exploited the "Madonna factor" — the increase of women candidates, housewives' anger over a new sales tax and a sex scandal involving then-Prime Minister Sosuke Uno, who was accused of having kept mistresses.

Ms Doi, 61, is the first female head of a major Japanese political party and could become this nation's first female prime minister if the Liberal Democrats lose their majority in the 512-seat lower house.

However, even her party is fielding only eight women among its 148 endorsed candidates. Altogether, 66 of the 953 candidates running in the election are women.

A few Japanese women have been politically active since allied occupation reforms granted them legal equality after World War II. In the first postwar election in 1946, 79 of the 2,770 candidates running for office were women and 39 were elected.

Since then, women have gradually relinquished traditional roles to work outside the home — about 40 per cent of the work force is female — and the old social structure is being transformed.

They still face stubborn obstacles both in the workplace, where they are often told to pour tea and perform other menial chores, and in the political arena, where they have had to seek careers outside the ruling party.

Analysts attribute the Liberal Democrats' reluctance to back women — despite their obvious appeal to female voters — to old-fashioned thinking and the structure of Japan's electoral system.

"Society has changed, but the Liberal Democrats tend to be dominated by traditional thinking. They're behind the times," says Takeshi Sasaki, a law professor at Tokyo University.

Women have trouble gaining influence and financial backing while outside the factions that make up the conservative party. They aren't given endorsements because party leaders fear additional candidates would dilute support for incumbent male candidates, he says.

The Liberal Democrats couldn't just go out and recruit lots of women candidates. They're hampered by their own traditions and power struggles," Sasaki explains.

Gunman fires shots at Nakasone office

Second shooting incident during poll campaign

TOKYO, Feb 11, (Agencies): A 23-year-old man walked into a campaign office of former prime minister Yasuhiro Nakasone today and fired several shots, but there were no reports of injuries, police said. It was the second shooting incident involving a Japanese politician in a month.

A police official said Nakasone was away campaigning for an upcoming parliamentary election at the time of the attack. The man, identified as Koji Konishi, was captured at the office in Takasaki, 100 kms (60 miles) northwest of Tokyo, according to the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.



Moon appeal

Moon Ik-Hwan, the dissident pastor who was sentenced to 10 years in prison last year for making an illegal trip to communist North Korea in early 1989 is helped by guards to a Seoul court Feb 10 to hear the results of his appeal of the court's ruling. A higher court reduced the sentence to seven years for Moon, who has been very ill in hospital (Reuters wirephoto)

Western values China says no

BEIJING, Feb 11, (AP): An authoritative weekly magazine says the United States and the West have been trying for 40 years to export their values, but China will never allow "bourgeois liberalisation" to undermine its socialist system.

In its latest edition, the Beijing Review said a US policy of promoting "liberalism" in China, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries goes back to US secretary of state John Foster Dulles in the 1950s.

While not mentioning political reforms in other socialist nations, the commentary: "Let no one have the illusion that China will make any concession on so great an issue."

The article was part of a major propaganda campaign to convince Chinese and the outside world that China will remain a bastion of socialism, regardless of changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

During the past week, following the decision of the Soviet Communist Party to cede its guaranteed monopoly on power, the official media has barraged the nation with editorials stating that only the Communist Party has the mandate to rule China.

The Beijing review quoted a 1953 speech by Dulles in which he called for the "liberation of these captive peoples" behind the "iron curtain."

Big 5 resume Cambodia talks to enhance UN role in peace process

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 11, (AP): Representatives of the five permanent Security Council members resume talks on Cambodia today with other nations closely monitoring efforts to enhance the UN role in the peace process.

Officials scheduled a working dinner tonight to open two days of discussions on Cambodia. On the agenda is a proposal for the United Nations to administer the South-East Asian country and supervise its elections.

The full 15-member Security Council would have to approve the plan to clear the way for heightened UN role. Western diplomats familiar with the negotiations say the New York meeting is just one step in what they predict will be a lengthy process.

Participating in the meeting will be Foreign Ministry officials, including Xu Dunxin of China, Yuri Mikayotykh of the Soviet Union, David Gillmore of Britain, Claude Martin of France and Richard

Solomon of the United States

The Japanese government is closely following attempts to enhance the UN role in Cambodia, said a Japanese diplomat.

The Japanese diplomat said his government considers bringing peace to Cambodia a high priority, but is concerned about the level of funding necessary for a peace plan including a major UN role.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said he welcomes the opportunity for the United Nations to con-

tribute to the peace process, but stressed that the world body must be given enough resources to be effective.

The Japanese diplomat also said he would like to see more sessions on Cambodia that included other countries, particularly those who have already demonstrated a desire to actively seek peace. He said that in addition to Japan, those would include Australia, Canada and the six members of ASEAN — the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Preliminary agreement announced: The superpowers have announced preliminary agreement on a US plan for a 10-year phase-out of their chemical weapons stockpiles, but they linked total elimination of such weapons to a worldwide ban. It was reported in Moscow.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told a news conference yesterday, after three days of talks with US Secretary of State James Baker III, that the superpowers reached an agreement on a prospective agreement of principle.

"We believe such an agreement could be signed during President (Michael S.) Gorbachev's visit to the United States," he added. The Soviet leader is scheduled to travel to Washington in June to meet with US President George Bush.

The announcement had been expected after Baker's lengthy talks with Shevardnadze and Gorbachev in Moscow. (AP)



So, what's this?

US President George Bush looks at a model of "Brilliant Pebbles" given to him on a tour of Lawrence Livermore nuclear weapons laboratory. (Reuters wirephoto)

Focus shifts to dirty needles: A sudden leap in the number of AIDS cases in China has forced the world's most populous country to switch its attention from foreigners to dirty needles and infected blood as causes of contamination.

Chinese medical experts were quoted today as calling on the government to set up blood monitoring groups and start testing all donors as soon as possible.

Police blundered: Niger's military government says its police blundered in shooting dead three students during a protest in the capital of Niamey. Niamey radio said today.

The government-controlled radio, in a broadcast monitored in Abidjan Ivory Coast, said an inquiry was under way to establish who was responsible for the police action.

The radio quoted Information Secretary Saidou Arout. "Arou" said that what happened in Niamey on Friday was simply a blunder by the law enforcement forces — a blunder which has left three dead...," the radio said. (AP)

Soviet premier on tie-boosting tour of Thailand

BANGKOK, Feb 11, (UPI): Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov arrived today in Thailand on an official two-day visit expected to focus on the Cambodian conflict and expansion of Soviet economic ties with the region.

Ryzhkov, arriving on a special Aeroflot plane, was greeted by Thai Prime Minister Chomchavan and other senior ministers.

The Soviet premier was scheduled to tour Thailand's royal palace and visit a textile factory before a formal dinner tonight and official talks with Chatichai tomorrow.

Ryzhkov, fresh from supporting President Mikhail Gorbachev's moves toward a multi-party Soviet system, was expected to discuss efforts to end the conflict in Cambodia, where Thailand and the Soviet Union back

opposing sides.

The Soviet Union provides arms to the Phnom Penh government installed by Vietnam in 1978 while Thailand has long acted as a conduit for Western and Chinese aid for the three-party anti-government coalition.

Both Thailand and the Soviet Union, however, have urged their Cambodian allies to find a political settlement to the conflict.

Ryzhkov was also expected to seek better trade ties with Thailand, one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

Thai exports to the Soviet Union totalled \$400 million last year while Soviet exports to Thailand reached only \$80 million.

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INTERNATIONAL

Soviets want to end the post-war division of Europe

Unification of Germany will come about quickly, says Genscher

WEST BERLIN, Feb 11, (Agencies): West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said today the Soviet leadership cleared the way for German unification because Moscow officials believe it would improve European stability.

Genscher, appearing on nation-wide television less than an hour after returning from Moscow with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, repeated Bonn's assertion that unification will come about "very quickly."

In East Berlin, the official news agency ADN said President Mikhail Gorbachev's support for unification means the Soviets want to end the post-war division of Europe.

In just four months the official East German stance has been transformed from one of bitter denunciations of any talk of German unity to one of acceptance.

For East German leaders, the only question remains one of time, although events are clearly sweeping the process forward much more quickly than almost anyone could have imagined.

After meeting with Gorbachev in Moscow, Kohl said he expects all four victorious World War II allies to agree before the end of the year on a plan to unite Germany.

"General secretary Gorbachev told me unequivocally that the Soviet Union will respect the decision of Germans to live in one state," Kohl told a news conference.

The Soviet Union, the United States, France and Britain retain official rights over Berlin as the victors in the war against Nazi Germany.

Too late to prevent mass poverty

Yeltsin warns of civil war

LONDON, Feb 11, (AP): Soviet maverick Boris Yeltsin was quoted today as saying that civil war could break out in the Soviet Union if the Communist Party does not reform quickly.

The next few months would determine if there was to be progress or anarchy, but it might already be too late to prevent mass poverty, he was quoted as telling the Sunday Times of London.

"The economic results for January are not even zero, they are minus. I don't remember having such bad results even at the peak of stagnation," Yeltsin was reported as saying. The 18-year rule of Leonid Brezhnev, who died in 1982, is referred to by present reformers as a period of stagnation.

The weekly's editor, Andrew Neil, and Peter Millar, its central Europe correspondent, said Yeltsin talked to them last week in his office near the Kremlin.

They said Yeltsin told them he is

prepared to form a breakaway party if hardliners are not removed from the party leadership at its next congress in early summer.

Yeltsin was quoted as accusing Soviet leader Michael Gorbachev of pandering to the hardliners, his every step toward reform "too little, too late."

Yeltsin has won wide popularity with his anti-establishment stance and calls for more radical reform.

Yeltsin was dumped from his job as Moscow Communist Party chief in 1987 after his outspoken criticism of party leaders. He was later given a state post in construction.

The 58-year-old former engineer parlayed his image as a fighter for justice and victim of the party bureaucracy into a sweeping victory in elections for the Soviet congress of people's deputies last March, when he won 89 per cent of the Moscow

vote. As a national legislator, Yeltsin has emerged as a leader of the fledgling opposition to Communist Party leaders.

Yeltsin, who was the only member of the party's central committee to vote against Gorbachev's reform plans on Wednesday, said the Soviet people will take to the streets if reform comes at a slow pace.

He said he voted against the Gorbachev proposals because they were vaguely presented without a written draft and did not satisfy the groundswell of popular discontent, the report said.

"The most important thing is whether we will be able to control it within some civilised limits as in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria or East Germany, or, since, we have such a monster as the KGB (secret police), whether we will follow the Romanian pattern and have civil war; this is the biggest danger," he was quoted as saying.

In explaining the reasons for the clear Soviet support, Genscher said today that a unified Germany would be a gain for the "partnership of stability that is indispensable between East and West."

"And that is certainly one of the reasons why the Soviet leadership now has spoken out in such a clear way in favour of unification of the two German states," Genscher said on the round-table discussion on the ARD television network.

He asserted: "An artificial maintenance of the division (of Germany) would mean a loss of stability for Europe."

The West German foreign minister repeated Bonn's opposition to a neutral Germany, and said the Soviets see "several possibilities" for resolving the thorny issue. He did not name them.

Genscher also promised that a unified Germany with nearly 80 million people will be mindful of the numerous concerns of its European neighbours.

"We don't want a German Europe, but rather a European Germany," he said.

All of East Germany's political parties have said that unification is inevitable.

One leading political party, the Social Democrats, says it will start talks on unification with Bonn if it heads the government after the nation's first free elections on March 18.

ADN, the official news agency, said today: "Forty-five years after the end of World War II, the Soviet Union is firmly committed to end the time of division of Europe."

However, the news agency also said that from "Moscow's viewpoint several questions remain open," including that of the military status of a united Germany.

"I thank general secretary Gorbachev that he has made possible this historical outcome," Kohl told reporters last night in Moscow.

"This is a good day for Germany and a good day for me personally," a smiling Kohl said after meeting with Gorbachev for two hours.

Kohl was asked directly whether German reunification would be completed before a pan-European security conference in 1992 that will discuss the changing European order.

"I do not believe that the decision requires such a long time to be taken," Kohl said. "We are in a very dynamic process that is not being accelerated by us, but by East Germany."

"They are saying that they are people and they want the results of free elections to be respected. This is something we should abide by."

■ About 20,000 people demonstrated for speedy German reunification late Saturday in the southern East German city of Plauen, the official East German news agency ADN said.

Many people in the crowd carried West German flags, the agency said.

"I see the presence of the secretary of state as bringing our relations onto a new basis," said Prime Minister Petre Roman. "I think that from now on we can really speak about American aid — I mean not only humanitarian aid, I mean aid to rebuild Romania."

Baker declined to commit himself on the wider issue of most favoured nation (MFN) status, which would give Romania important trade concessions.

"We are re-examining our position on MFN," he told reporters. "(it) will depend on continued movement toward free and fair elections, openness, freedom and democracy."

Baker met the leaders of the political opposition to the ruling National Salvation Front at the residence of US ambassador Alan Green and reporters asked whether he shared the opposition suspicion of the front.

"I'm not sure I would characterize it that way," he said.

"It is very important that the opposition be given adequate access to the media, that the preparation for the forthcoming election be fair and complete and



Beat 'em

US Secretary of State James Baker told Bulgarian opposition leaders shortly after his arrival on Saturday that united they could topple communism.

Baker, the highest ranking US official to visit Bulgaria, was greeted by about 1,000 people holding banners and shouting "democracy" and the Communist Party is the Mafia" as he arrived at his hotel in Sofia.

"You are the people who have brought Bulgaria to the threshold of a new age of democracy. We admire your courage, your vision and your persistence. The United States supports free and fair elections for Bulgaria," he told the crowd.

Officials said the high point of his stay was a two-hour meeting with 17 opposition leaders who described the problems they faced trying to weaken the Communist Party's 45-year grip on power.

"United, you are much stronger. You are facing a very powerful opponent, but you have the hopes and aspirations of the people. If you stay united, you can win," an official quoted him as saying. Picture shows people holding banners and showing victory sign gather in front of Sheraton Hotel in Sofia. (Reuter wirephoto)

Baker offers Romania aid

Food for the hungry

BUCHAREST, Feb 11, (Reuter): US Secretary of State James Baker visited Romania briefly today and announced that \$80 million in food aid would be made available to the hungry East European country.

His hosts, smarting from recent US criticism of their stalling progress towards democracy, took the hastily arranged four-hour visit and Baker's promise as indicating that Washington now believed they were firmly committed to democracy.

"I see the presence of the secretary of state as bringing our relations onto a new basis," said Prime Minister Petre Roman. "I think that from now on we can really speak about American aid — I mean not only humanitarian aid, I mean aid to rebuild Romania."

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"We are re-examining our position on MFN," he told reporters. "(it) will depend on continued movement toward free and fair elections, openness, freedom and democracy."

He then mentioned East Germany and Romania as examples of backsliders on the path to democracy.

Baker had a similar message yesterday from Bulgaria's Communist government.

Romanian spokesman expressed themselves well satisfied with the tone of today's meetings, during which Baker also met Iliescu, opposition leaders and Lazlo Tokes, the Protestant Pastor whose resistance to the secret police sparked December's uprising which deposed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

■ The Soviet official in charge of food supplies has warned that meat production, already woefully inadequate, could plummet because of a lack of feed to fatten livestock.

A string of regional Communist Party bosses in the Ukraine have been forced out of office as discontent sweeps the area ahead of elections early next month.

Anatoly Vinnik, Communist Party chief of the big Ukrainian coal region of Donetsk, has resigned after more than half of the speakers at a party meeting condemned his handling of the post.

The official Tass news agency said regional party leaders in Ivano-Frankovsk, Khmelnytsky and Yuzhgorod, all in the Ukraine, have also been sacked.

Moldavia now seeks autonomy

KISHINYOV, Soviet Union, Feb 11, (Reuter): At least 50,000 people massed in the Moldavian capital today to applaud speakers of both the ruling Communist Party and a radical opposition group demanding greater autonomy.

The rally in Kishinyov's Victory Square signalled a sharp drop in tension between the southwestern Soviet republic's Romanian-speaking majority and minority Russians two weeks before local and regional elections.

It was also a turning point in the Communist Party's battle to regain prestige lost during years of what is widely regarded as misrule.

The demonstrators, waving hundreds of red, yellow and blue Romanian national flags, cheered local Communist Party chief Pyotr Luchinsky who took over the post last November.

They also applauded speakers of the Popular Front whose programme calls for an overhaul of the republic's institutions, demilitarisation of its territory and the introduction of its own currency and a mixture of state and private enterprise.

"We need to elect people who will solve our problems quickly and not just analyse them," the bespectacled Luchinsky told the crowd in the square and surrounding streets.

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Banana 'split'

Honecker played Santa in a corrupt state

EAST BERLIN, Feb 11, (AP): Erich Honecker "blessed" his people with bananas at Christmas while overseeing a state so corrupt that its officials even stooped to stealing money from private mail, prosecutors say.

The revelations, the most thorough expose to date of corruption under Honecker's rule, were made at a news conference Wednesday by Lothar Ritter, East Germany's deputy chief prosecutor.

According to Ritter, Honecker's private accounts were kept filled with Western currency by Alexander Schalck-Golodowski, East Germany's former chief foreign trader who has lied the country.

Schalck-Golodowski has been accused of overseeing an illegal weapons depot to export arms and earn Western currency for East Germany's leaders.

Ritter said that during 40 years of communist rule, corruption reached from top to bottom. He said prosecutors working across the nation still haven't uncovered all the details.

Ritter said prosecutors across East Germany have been overwhelmed with the casework. But he did not say how many arrests have been made and how many trials might ensue.

"There are hundreds of cases like this across the country," he said.

Honecker kept a private account that on any given day

had to contain at least 100 million marks (\$60.6 million), Ritter said.

Ritter said Honecker once spent 750,000 marks (\$454,000) on a pocket watch once owned by Soviet Union founder Vladimir Lenin.

Authorities announced Wednesday that Honecker will be indicted for high treason and tried, probably after the March 18 elections, before the country's Supreme Court. He could face life in prison if convicted.

Honecker also apparently had his general side.

Occasionally, just before Christmas, the communist leader would "bless the people" by arranging for bananas, which were nearly non-existent in East Germany, to be imported and placed on market shelves, Ritter said.

Ritter said that Honecker, at such moments, tried to play "Santa Claus of the nation" — while communist officials were bilking the country.

The 77-year-old Honecker,

had to contain at least 100 million marks (\$60.6 million), Ritter said.

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Media laud Amir's visit to Oman

Better understanding for both countries

KUWAIT, Feb 11, (Kuna): Two Kuwaiti daily newspaper today hailed the current visit of His Highness the Amir to the Sultanate of Oman emphasising that the visit is sure to be of positive results.

In an editorial an Arabic newspaper said the visit has come amid developments that are of most importance and that necessitate consultation and study of what is going on in the region and the world as a whole.

The newspaper said the visit to Oman is being held within the framework of visits paid by HH the Amir to sisterly states with the aim of consolidating understanding

and links between Kuwait and these countries.

The paper stressed that the situation in the Gulf region is certain to be given special attention by HH the Amir and Sultan Qaboos of Oman who, together with the other leaders of the Gulf Co-operation Council, are seeking to maintain stability and security of this region.

Ventures

As for the Palestinian crisis, the paper said the two leaders would find the chance to warn against the Jewish immigration to the occupied Arab territories.

In conclusion the paper said "it is certain

that the important visit would result in a significance broadening of co-operation in all fields, particularly education and investments, in a way that is beneficial to the two countries and through joint ventures."

It added that the visit would undoubtedly open new and wide horizons for understanding on the path of welfare for both Kuwait and Oman and the countries of the region in general.

Another Arabic daily said the visit by HH the Amir to Oman is being held "within the framework of the movements of the Kuwaiti political leadership to foster co-operation within the Gulf house and to

reach a joint view toward current developments at the Arab level."

It expressed belief that the visit of HH to Muscat and his talks with Sultan Qaboos would constitute an additional step toward eliminating all obstacles facing co-operation and solidarity.

The paper also stressed that Kuwait and Oman enjoy relations of fraternity, brotherhood and co-operation, the same as among all people of the Gulf.

It added that these warm relations are sure to add more positive elements that are in interest of the Arab Gulf states and the Arab nation.



Kuwait-Iraq talks

The Undersecretary of Kuwait's Ministry of Electricity and Water Abdullah Al Munayes received today the Iraqi Charge D'Affaires to Kuwait Fahd Al Dulaimi. During the meeting the Iraqi envoy had conveyed a message to the Kuwaiti official from the Iraqi authorities concerned over the joint projects between Kuwait and Iraq.

Commerce Ministry criticised

Price increases continue unabated

He added that inspectors of the Ministry of Social Affairs have the right to inspect and control activities of the co-operatives according to the law and to seize violations committed there. The Union of Co-operative Societies has the right to submit suggestions to the ministry to dissolve the board of any co-operative society that violates the law and to appoint a new board instead, he said.

Unified prices

Kandiri pointed out that co-operative societies offer three kinds of groups of commodities: the first is subsidised items that are distributed through ration cards besides the items sold at co-ops like infants milk powder. The prices of these commodities are unified in all co-operatives, he said. The second group is the essential commodities that have their prices limited and unified by the Union of Co-operative Societies. The prices of these items are controlled by the union. He added that sometimes prices are increased or reduced but the union writes to every co-operative to change the price and so according to the new determined price.

Sometimes a co-operative does not get the new instructions of prices of the unified items which results in a difference in prices. This difference in price however lasts only for a short period.

He added that a third group of items consists of free commodities like household utensils, cosmetics and stationery. He said that the union limits the margin of profit on these commodities. But there are some differences in prices of these items due to the difference in prices of purchasing, discount given for some co-operatives, getting commodities by certain co-ops free of charge that is deducted from purchasing cost, and the efficiency of the purchasing committee at each co-operative that determines ability of the committee to get suitable prices from importers. He added that Ministry of Social Affairs makes studies on prices of commodities at co-operatives. It studies show that there are differences in prices between one co-operative and another they are advised to change their prices, he said.

Kandiri pointed out that according to the law each co-operative society has the right to spend 20 per cent of annual profits on social, cultural and entertainment services offered by co-operative for people of the area.

A NUMBER of citizens pointed out that prices are constantly rising and that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry seems to have lost direction in having the price structure monitored and controlled — particularly the Consumer Protection Department which has not reacted to stop this increase.

The above came about in an interview held with a number of citizens on services provided by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

They added that commercial cheating is evident in all commodities and demanded that the ministry take a strong stand towards eradicating this practice.

Hamad Abdullah stated that one of the main issues is to prevent the constant increase in prices which has no basis for justification. He indicated that some of the prices have increased after the last increase in salaries and he wondered whether the ministry has combated this increase or not. He added that the price of construction materials have increased noticeably coinciding with the distribution of plots and loans.

He stated that the Consumer Protection Department was originally established to protect consumers from the greed of merchants adding that no actions have been taken which support this role. He cited the problem of imitation commodities and called upon the ministry officials to take necessary measures in order to combat this problem. He queried if the Consumer Protection Department has enough authority to play its role fully.

On the other hand, Fahad Mohammed stated that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry procedures for granting licences is time consuming and bureaucratic. He called upon officials to find easier solutions to this problem in order to facilitate licences applications measures. He pointed out that one of the conditions demanded by applicants requires them to bring evidence showing a specific bank balance at one of the local banks. He said that such measures will make procedures more complicated for many applicants and force others to use other means in order to obtain their licences. He queried that such measures will be cancelled to facilitate speedier grants of licences.

Ayed Mohammed said that unfortunately obtaining commercial licences have become more complicated due to the two foldness of measures. He added that for example an application for a video shop licence should be approved by both the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Information. He suggested that such links should be dissolved particularly concerning the approval of the Ministry of Information which should only be responsible for video films censorship.

Fayez Al Enizi thanked officials at the Ministry of Commerce for their concern and constant support of some food stuff and hoped the ministry would keep implementing the ration card system which is considered essential to many citizens. He cited that

applying government support on some of the commodities will cause an increase in their prices at free markets.

Fares Al Eibani wondered whether the Ministry of Commerce has anything to do with supporting the establishment of local industries. He added that some of the world's poor countries were able to establish their own local industries and that Kuwait should utilise its resources in order to do the same. He pointed out that finding the right manpower for these industries is not a big issue if there was enough capital. He suggested that scrap area should be utilised in order to achieve higher feasibility.

Oabd Faileh pointed out that repair prices at automotive garages are very high adding that it is clear that the Ministry of Commerce have not done anything to combat this issue. He added that on many occasions he was cheated by garages which claimed that they have installed an original part but these parts were found to be imitations. He queried the role of the Consumer Protection Department in this problem.

Khaleefah Husain said that displaying prices of all commodities at the local market is a very important measure.

He added that this idea was implemented by the ministry in the wrong fashion and lacked laws and rulings. He pointed out that merchants have full freedom in printing whatever prices on their commodities adding that more restrictions and limits should be provided by the ministry in order to unify prices.

Meanwhile, the price of beef in Kuwait has increased from KD1,000 to KD1,500. Consumers anticipate that the price of beef will yet increase further if no measures are taken in order to protect them.

Butchers and shop owners on the other hand, pointed out that it is not their responsibility to set limits on beef prices adding that the whole problem should be the sole responsibility of contracting companies responsible for importing beef. They indicated that there is only one company in Kuwait which imports beef and therefore it has a monopoly.

The Assistant Undersecretary for the Supply and

Consumers Protection Affairs at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Abdullah Al Mulla stated that the price quotation on one kilogram of beef is indicated by the ministry at \$800. He called upon consumers to inform the ministry's Consumer Protection Department of any violation in prices.

He stressed that the ministry will take strong measures against butchers and shop owners who overcharge. He added that ministry inspectors conduct daily inspection tours to ensure that butcher shops comply with prices. He reiterated the cooperation between the ministry and citizens is important in order to combat this problem.

The students union also used to finance charity projects and rehabilitation programmes to enable the refugees in getting a job and leading a dignified life along with members of their families.

report the findings to the Council of Ministers.

He pointed out that the department would under certain circumstances have to resort to devised measures to cope with the details of a certain matter brought to its attention which failed to find address under the existing law provisions and that the devised rules would be strictly derived from the existing legal provisions.

He said that the provisions of the law used by the department were derived from

the Islamic sharia and that more rules would be inferred under Islamic law to attend to matter where there was no direct legal statute to deal with it.

He said that steps were consistently being taken to unify the legal systems in the GCC countries, and that studies were carried out to establish the best judicial and legal views upon which the proposed unified legal system could be based in the best interest of these countries.

Comprehensive legal encyclopaedia to cover issues

THE director of the Legal Advice and Legislation Department Abdul Rasool Abdul Rida has said that the department is progressively developing its operation techniques.

He told a local daily that the department is co-operating with the National Commission and Microfilm Centre at the Planning Ministry to upgrade the performance of the microfilm centre and complete the inter-organisation of its divisions. This will enhance the planned set up of a

comprehensive legal encyclopaedia to cover all different legal aspects.

He said that the department is anxious awaiting the issue of a new law to restructure its existing system which needed reconsideration in certain areas.

He said the department looked into matters of dispute arising between government agencies under article No. 4 of its practice code, which entitled the department to examine inter-governmental disputes and

250 patients wait for kidney donors

No restrictions in Islam, says theologian

KUWAIT, Feb 11, (Kuna): A

prominent Kuwaiti theologian has indicated that there were no restrictions in Islam on donation of human organs for medical transplant operations.

Dr Khalid Al Mathkour told a seminar here last night that a person can donate his organs to be implemented into body of another needy patient before death, provided that he made no harm to oneself.

He said one can make the offer personally during life-time or according to a will before death.

The consent of relatives on the donation of the organs of the deceased is a must, Dr Mathkour stated, saying that in case of non-existence of relatives or guardians, the donated parts can only

the probability of the death well ahead to allow them time to make up their minds on the possibility of donating his organs.

The legal counsellor at the Public Health Ministry Yahia Abu Al Fetouh reviewed the regulations governing organs transplant operations in Kuwait.

He said the law issued in this connection in the year 1987 has legalised transferring organs from a person or a corpse to be implanted in another's body as long as the operation is believed contributing to recipient's rescue.

He stressed the law has organised the process of organs donation in accordance to principles of the Islamic sharia and other public laws observed in Kuwait.

Revolutionary housing plan being studied by authority

THE assistant secretary general of the Higher Housing Council and director of public relations at the National Housing Authority (NHA) Ahmad Al Diqbas, has said that the NHA is making important studies on a new housing system that will be considered a revolution in housing service.

The authority has termed the new system "the black concrete structure" which is based on making concrete structures of houses with several styles offered to citizens and the latter can finish their houses in co-operation with NHA. In this case, citizens can make rooms and utilities inside the structure as they desire and save public money and their own which is usually spent on changing the fronts of the government houses. He added that the new system will be one of the substitutes offered by the state for citizens in housing service.

The new system will be offered in the next five-year plan, he said.

Dr Diqbas pointed out that the NHA is making a field study in co-operation with Ksar to know the desires of citizens who deserve government houses. The study aims at getting a comprehensive picture for these desires in order to develop recommendations and regulations on designs of houses in future.

He also added that the NHA will open the central public garden at Quraish housing project during the celebrations of the National Day, the foundation stone being laid by HH the Amir on 30/3/1986.

It will also contain several entertainment services for children the green squares and trees.

The garden is one of three central gardens that will be opened in the Quraish housing project.

Meanwhile, the assistant director general of Kuwait Financial House for real estates sector Sulaiman Al Brikani said that KFH reached an agreement on co-operation between NHA and the private sector.

He added that the agreement will be signed by KFH and authority after finalising some official procedures.

KFH had and still actively participates in the housing service by offering land, allocations and houses for citizens against long term loans that reach ten years.

He added that KFH is ready to meet demand of any citizen who wants to buy a private house. The loan gets from Saving & Credit Bank (KDS4,000) will be the downpayment of the house. The remaining amount can be installed for ten years, he said.

The National Housing Authority Area II chief engineer Adel Al Turki has said that the contractors working on current NHA projects are earnestly bent on completing their works on time.

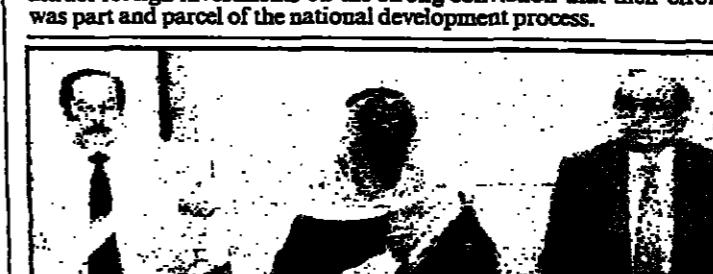
He told a local daily that the authority had taken massive measures to facilitate financial transactions and deals of these contractors pointing out that regular monthly meetings were held to review the contractors' comments and views as to the financial administrative and professional matters.

He said that a few contractors were facing executive problems, which arose from the huge sizes of the projects assigned to them which required resources to manage and co-ordinate their different works, including the timely import of raw material.

He urged participants to make the best of these courses, pointing out that close interaction with their instructors was essential to achieve this goal.

He said that questionnaires would be circulated among them to invite their comments on the administrative, technical aspects of the course to highlight the positive aspects of the courses and eliminate the negative ones on future courses.

The courses are being held at the authority's main premises in Dasman Complex, Sharq, during working hours.



Students continue Jordan trip

AMMAN, Feb 11, (Kuna): A delegation of the national student union of Kuwait University, headed by the deputy president of the union for scientific affairs Abdullah Al Sager, continued their five-day visit to Jordan today.

The delegation will be touring the governorate of Al Zarqa today to visit the Islamic Society College where they will listen to a lecture on the development and accomplishment of the college.

The student delegation will then investigate the welfare projects they participated in to see how they are running and how much has been accomplished.

On their way back to Amman, the delegation will visit Hareem refugee camp to closely view the situation of the refugees and the daily problems that face them.

Kuwait University Students Union sends a delegation at the beginning of each year to Jordan as a gesture of continued solidarity by Kuwaiti people with their Palestinian brothers and to distribute annual contributions and donations to needy families in Palestinian refugee camps.

The students union also used to finance charity projects and rehabilitation programmes to enable the refugees in getting a job and leading a dignified life along with members of their families.



Paed training courses

The director of the Training, Planning and Co-ordination Department at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training Mansour Al Mishali has opened two new training courses organised by the training staff and the other on questionnaires and related uses.

He urged participants to make the best of these courses, pointing out that close interaction with their instructors was essential to achieve this goal.

He said that questionnaires would be circulated among them to invite their comments on the administrative, technical aspects of the course to highlight the positive aspects of the courses and eliminate the negative ones on future courses.

The courses are being held at the authority's main premises in Dasman Complex, Sharq, during working hours.

JOHNSON

Combat satellite cultural invasion: Jaber

New developed formula requested

MANAMA, Feb 11, (Kuna): Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad was quoted here yesterday as urging Arab Information policymakers to launch plans for combatting "cultural invasion coming through satellites."

In an interview with Bahraini daily "Al Adwa," the minister said that co-ordination

is also needed among the Gulf states to face attempts by "biased foreign media seeking to disintegrate" the region's cohesiveness.

Explaining further, Sheikh Jaber said fast international changes presently witnessed in light of a detente policy between the two superpowers make it incumbent on Arab media institutions to unify efforts

to reach a "new developed formula."

This is a "joint responsibility," to be shouldered by leading information and communication experts in order to bring forward specific proposals for implementation at the national level, he said.

The minister noted that continued consultations in information fields among the

states of the Gulf Co-operation Council have helped forestall dangers plotted by pro-Israeli foreign media.

Arabs, he said, needed to be protected from programmes aimed at "deforming their culture, religion and values."

Satellite dishes and receiving equipment are banned in most Gulf states.

Legal Clinic

SHOULD you have a legal, labour-related or similar problem, kindly send your questions to: Arab Times Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer, Khaled Tahir, replies to readers' queries.

Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

I AM a carpenter and was working with a contractor who was building an overbridge. While working, a shanty fell on me and I fell down from a height of 10 metres. As a result, I was severely injured and suffered fractures in one arm and four ribs were cracked. I was hospitalized for four months. The hospital authorities recommended 20 per cent disability. When the company submitted the certificate to the insurance company, they sent me to the police for a report. The police report says that the accident was due to my fault. The insurance company has told me that I am not entitled to any compensation according to the police report.

Abul Kashem

THE KUWAITI private sector labour law, No. 38/1964, article 64 stipulates: "The injured labourer shall receive his wage in full during the period of treatment determined by the physician. If such a period exceeds six months, half wage shall be paid to him until he is fit. If recovered, proven to be disabled, he shall receive a compensation of 100 per cent of his wage." Article 65 of the same law states: "If a labourer sustains an injury by the reasons of his own fault in the course of work, he shall have the right to be compensated for the injury in conformity with the schedule issued under the decision of the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour in application of this article; provided that he shall not be compensated if the relevant investigations prove:

a) The labourer has injured himself on purpose; (b) if the injury has occurred as a result of gross misconduct, intentionally made by the labourer; provided that it does not result in the death of the labourer or a permanent disability exceeding 25 per cent of the entire disability.

It is important to determine the cause of accident and find out if it was due to an error or committed on purpose. After all, don't know the contents of the criminal judgement in the case. In most cases, a labourer has the right to claim against the company. If you want a clear answer, send a copy of the criminal judgement. In a majority of cases, a court case can be filed to claim compensation. And the court examines the case thoroughly before passing judgement.

THANK you for replying to my query in the Arab Times edition of Jan 29. I have enclosed copies of documents. Please tell me why my residence transfer application was rejected. My residence expires next month. Where do I have to pay the penalty, in case my residence expires?

Please tell me what is "A'dam' man'a"; my new sponsor is trying to get me one. My company gave the release to nine people. But all their applications were rejected.

Mohd. Khalid Islam

I'VE gone through the documents you've sent. I don't know why your application was rejected. The reason for rejection has not been mentioned in the documents. Article 16 of the labour rules implemented in March 1989 clearly say that a transfer of residence can be done if a labourer has completed at least three years service. I don't know why the application was returned.

"Ada mu' man'a" is the no objection certificate, obtained for a new visa. If your new sponsor gets you the NOC, you can leave the country and re-enter.

If your residence expires, you must pay the penalty to the immigration authorities.

WE appreciate the advice to our previous query. The victim died in the company vehicle; he was attached to an oil company as a semi-skilled labourer; on the day of the accident, he was posted to a project in Wafra. We have the police report, post mortem report and other documents. The dead body was sent back to Sri Lanka through the embassy. Please tell us if the company which he was working for can be held responsible for the life of the person, taking into consideration the fact that he was hired by another company? We need a lawyer to follow-up the case.

Sympathiser

YOU can file a case against both companies to claim compensation. Who does the police report blame? There must be a criminal judgement against the man at fault; if there is you can file a case against the person and his insurers. If you want to meet me, you provided me with an appointment. You can call the Arab Times, Tel: 481-3566 ext. 285 between 6 and 7 pm and ask them for further information by introducing yourself, giving reference of the case. After meeting you, I'll be able to give you appropriate advice.

I'VE been working for a company for the last eight years. Due to lack of work in the company, my employer told me to work for a private contractor, whose residence permit has been stamped by our company. This contractor has not paid me for the last four months. Whenever we ask for the salary, the contractor says he doesn't have the money. We informed the manager of our company and he has told us not to see him. This



contractor never makes our time cards.

I want to complain to the ministry of social affairs and labour. Will I face any problems; for example, proof that I was told by our company manager to work for the contractor. The only proof I have are my colleagues.

The company manager and the contractor are friends. Can they cancel my residence permit? What are my benefits if they sack me? I've been working for the contractor for the past one year with the verbal permission of our company manager.

I am an ordinary labourer. Sir, please advise me giving exact details of the consequences.

F. Barboza

IT is important to prove that you were asked to work for the private contractor. If you have witnesses, you'll be able to prove that.

You can file a case against both employers—the one you work for, and the one who told you to work, and base the case on the testimony of your colleagues.

You have the right to get full benefits, because the breach of the contract was started by the employer by not paying your salary. You'll be entitled to receive all the benefits and salary, and vacation leave.

The company will try to fight you. Don't worry about the residence, because you can stay in the country until the case has been settled. Maybe, they have the right to cancel your residence. But you can get permission to stay in Kuwait with the assistance of the immigration authority, who can extend the residence on the basis of legal papers obtained from the court.

I'M a European Muslim lady, married to a Kuwaiti and the mother of three Kuwaiti children. I would like to know what is the legal possibility of staying in Kuwait with my children if my husband does not want to renew my residence permit, without divorcing me, or if I can get a divorce granted from court. Could I stay in Kuwait? My children are under the age of seven. Could the government help me? How? Where can I ask for help?

Anonymous

YOU can get custody of the children. If your husband refuses to renew the residence permit, in most cases, a foreign mother can stay in the country on the sponsorship of her children if she is a widow or a divorcee. You can seek assistance at the department of immigration; officials there can tell you the exact nature of procedures that you should follow.

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THE HEADMISTRESS of Qabeela School for disabled girls, Hessa Ibrahim Al Rayes said that the school was established in 1985 at the previous Barida Kindergarten location. She added the school included boys and girls previously, but was changed to an exclusive girls school last year. The school has a total of 82 girl students with ages ranging between 4-18 years.

Hessa explained that Kuwait has more than 600 mentally disabled children living in basements away from society. Most families believe that such cases are a disgrace to family honour. She pointed out that if parents realised the reality of the issue they would have immediately registered their disabled children at the school in order to get around their mental disabilities and to develop their mental levels.

The school undersecretary, Fawzia Khaled said that all children registered at the school are transferred by the Genetic Medicine Centre at the Maternal Hospital. Parents registering their children at the school show full understanding towards their children's problems. The school was established to train students in many skills which are essential for their day-to-day needs.

Regarding the cases accepted by the school and treatment, the headmistress added that the school accepts all mental disability and Mongolian cases which have less than 50 per cent IQ levels. She indicated that the school tries to develop students' physical, mental, social, psychological and health abilities. She pointed out that the law has indicated that only seven students are permitted per classroom but, the school has classrooms with ten students each.

Hessa stated that specialised social workers guide and direct parents in dealing with their daughters in a number of situations. Students who have already reached the teenage period are treated on special basis which allows for more family co-operation.

JASSEM added that the urban design division at the municipality has conducted a detailed study in the past on the status of historical landmarks in the country to help spread public awareness on their rarity and beauty.

He noted that a work team of the division conducted a field survey for eight consecutive months, during which it identified 122 landmarks in Kuwait.

City. All 122 buildings will be included in the 1st volume of a municipality study on privately-owned landmarks and buildings belonging to the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

The study also included buildings belonging to the ministries of Finance, Information, Education, Health and Electricity and water, in addition to the state properties department.

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Call to preserve historical heritage

KUWAIT, Feb 11, (Kuna): A symposium on preserving historical buildings has called for promoting awareness among decision-makers on the importance of heritage and preserving landmarks.

The symposium, organised by Kuwait Municipality, also emphasised the significance of encouraging the private sector to take part in the process of

preserving national landmarks, by offering it all possible facility, that is to construction laws or exempt from fees.

Walid Al Jassim, an engineer who took part at the symposium, said that the municipality had passed a law in 1988, requesting all government institutions to co-operate with the municipality in protecting and preserving landmarks.

Jassem added that the urban design division at the municipality has conducted a detailed study in the past on the status of historical landmarks in the country to help spread public awareness on their rarity and beauty.

He noted that a work team of the division conducted a field survey for eight consecutive months, during which it identified 122 landmarks in Kuwait.

MAKKAH, Feb 11, (Kuna): The International Islamic Council for Call and Relief has expressed its deep concern and anxiety over the emigration of the Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine.

The council will encourage evil plans of Zionism against human rights, said a statement issued by the council here last night.

On Soviet support to Palestinian rights, the council which comprises representatives of Islamic organisations said: "We have been following with great sorrow the sudden retreat of Soviet Union before the imperialist and Zionist plan to

undermine the image of the Soviet Union and its relations with its friends.

"Such a retreat goes against the principles of Soviet policy and human rights.

"We view this as a surrender to Zionist political blackmail and this flood of Soviet Jews to be a decisive blow to Arab-Soviet relations," the statement said.

The council sent a cable on the issue to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, it said.

On behalf of Islamic organisations and societies, it said the council would like to express its

deep anxiety over the decision of the Soviet government to allow Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel, furthering the Zionist ideology.

The Zionist occupiers of Palestine have endangered the security of Arab neighbours.

"We are hopeful that the Soviet Union will not allow the Arab territories to be invaded.

"Such acts cause great harm to relations between the Soviet Union and the Muslim world. It will also jeopardise international peace and stability.

"We are hopeful that you will intervene to reverse this unfair decision," the cable concluded.

GCC committee

RIYADH, Feb 11, (Kuna): A technical committee of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) entrusted with the unification of regulations and rules of preventive supervision for civil defence in the GCC member states will hold a meeting here tomorrow.



Cabinet session

State writes off debts to SCB

KUWAIT, Feb 11, (Kuna): Kuwait today renewed its support to the Lebanese people in their strive to extricate the country from its present dilemma and praised the positive steps exerted by the Higher Arab Tripartite Committee to extend control of the legitimate authority over the entire Lebanese territory and restate peace and tranquility there.

The stance was made following a regular session of the Kuwaiti government here today under Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Planning Minister and Acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi told newsmen following the Cabinet meeting that Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed has apprised the session of the gist of talks held here recently by Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali.

The Algerian official's talks,

Awadi quoted Sheikh Sabah as telling the Council of Ministers,

had centred on the state of existing

relations between fraternal

Algeria and Kuwait and means

to develop them besides condi-

tions passed by the Arab nation and other matters of mutual

interest.

The government spokesman

added that the Cabinet received a

report on the visit paid to Jeddah

last week by Minister of Endow-

ments and Islamic Affairs

Khaled Al Jassar to represent

HH the Amir, in his capacity as

current chairman of the Organisa-

tion of Islamic Conference (OIC);

at the 20th anniversary

celebrations of founding the OIC.

Jassar has delivered there the

address of HH the Amir on the

occasion which dwelt on major

Islamic causes, topped by the

Palestinian question, means to

promote collective Muslim work

and ways to realise goals and

aspirations of the Muslim

nation.

Dr Awadi said the cabinet has

followed with much concern and

regret the painful current events

in eastern Beirut, where many

innocent lives had been lost.

The cabinet, "its spokesman

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

I CLAIM not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have controlled me — Abraham Lincoln, former US president (1809-1865).

Revolution ignites passion

Moldavia calls for secession

KISHINEV, USSR. (AP): Romania's revolution has awakened a passion for reunification in neighbouring Soviet Moldavia that even the republic's populist leader may find difficult to control.

If Moldavia seceded and joined Romania, for a growing number of native Moldavians it would be going home — Moldavia was Romanian until Stalin seized it 50 years ago.

"There's nothing unnatural in our people's desire to reunify," said Leontina Lari, a poet who represents Moldavia in the Soviet Congress of People's Deputies in Moscow. "We are as Romanian as those living across the border."

Leaders on both sides of the Prut river border, mindful of the dangers for Romania as it rebuilds and the Soviet Union as it lurches from one ethnic crisis to another, say the future relationship between Romania and the territory Josef Stalin attached to his empire in 1940 need not be decided now.

But the first calls of "unire" (unity) echoed through this Moldavian capital at the start of the Romanian revolt against dictator Nicolae Ceausescu in December.

Moldavians speak a nearly identical language as Romanians and admire the same cultural heroes.

But during their history, they often have been separated. Before the breakup of Czarist Russia in 1917, Moldavia was the Russian province of Bessarabia. Many Russians, Ukrainians and Jews have lived in Moldavia for generations.

Inspired by the Romanian revolution, thousands of Moldavians took to the streets in a show of support for the anti-Ceausescu forces. Some young people offered to cross the border to join the battle. The republic's government, as well as the Moldavian People's Liberation Front Movement, sent medicine and food.

The People's Front already had been pressing demands on Moscow for greater autonomy. It won a battle to establish Moldavian as the official language of the republic and returned to the Latin alphabet used by Romanians, dropping the Cyrillic letters imposed under Stalin.

The People's Front has drawn thousands into the streets of Kishinev for rallies, and even its opponents acknowledge it is likely to sweep local elections cautiously, mindful of dangers for themselves as well as for President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's reforms.

"Today we are not putting the issue of reunification among the urgent tasks," said Nicolae Kostin, the 53-year-old chairman of the group's executive committee. "We will not attempt any steps in this direction without analysing carefully how that may backfire against Gorbachev and his policy of perestroika."

Ms Lari said in an interview that she worries a determined push for reunification with Romania could lead to military intervention or even a coup against Gorbachev.

For now, People's Front leaders say they would be satisfied with what they call a "Brandenburg variant," which envisions broader contacts across the border without full reunification. Berlin's Brandenburg Gate, after which the variant is named, became a symbol of the division between East and West Germany and was recently reopened to traffic and travellers.

But that course may not satisfy Moldavians who are the most intense about reunification and are disgruntled with the Soviet system.

A 19-year-old student who identified herself only as Tanya said reunification with Romania now offers Moldavians a chance to escape Communism.

Secession

"We are sick and tired with the way we have to live only because some half-literate leader can't let down the ideals of socialism — and we all have to suffer for it. Secession is the only chance for us to live properly and enjoy life while it is not too late, while we are still young."

"We have been lied to for 72 years," said Valentin Borda, a 40-year-old printer. "Now it's time we went our separate ways. We will go to any length to achieve reunification."

The People's Front president, Ion Haidirka, said that after the Romanian revolution, some members of organisation broke away and formed the Stephan Chel Mare Society. Named for Stephan the great, the 15th century Romanian King whose statue stands in a Kishinev park, it calls for the question of reunification to be decided immediately.

And there are other indications the People's Front has little control over more radical elements pressing for reunification.

In November, demonstrators climbed on Soviet tanks to halt the traditional Revolution Day military parade and attacked the Interior Ministry headquarters with firebombs, stones and iron rods.

Many of them refused to listen to People's Front leaders who appealed for calm.

Protesters calling for Russians to leave the republic of 4.2 million people and chanting "long live greater Romania" now share the streets with reinforced police patrols.

Vladimir Solonar, an ethnic Ukrainian leader of the Unity Movement formed to protect the rights of the 1 million Russians, Ukrainians and other minorities in Moldavia, said he fears the People's Front might be too disorganized to control the situation.

The new Moldavian Communist Party chief, Pyotr Luchinsky, told the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda that ethnic tension is his biggest worry. Demands for reunification were primarily an emotional reaction to the Romanian revolution, he said.

He added that the "absolute majority of residents of the republic are not for union with Romania but for more intensive contacts with our neighbour."

Mikhail S. Platon, a deputy premier of Moldavia, said, "We would like to raise the issue in such a way that people could travel (to Romania) by car or by bus, to go to the theatre, to meet each other freely."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1554 — Lady Jane Grey is executed for treason in England.
1577 — Don John of Austria, new governor of the Netherlands, issues edict to settle civil war.

1610 — France's King Henry IV signs alliance with German Protestant Union.

1689 — Declaration of rights in England, in which William and Mary are proclaimed king and queen for life.

1736 — Nadir Shah becomes king of Persia.

1885 — German East Africa Company is chartered.

1895 — Japanese forces score impressive victory at Wei-Hai-Wei in China.

1899 — Germany buys Pacific islands of Mariana, Caroline and Pelew from Spain.

1912 — Manchu dynasty abdicates in China and provincial republic is established.

1934 — Workers stage general strike in France.

1953 — Britain and Egypt reach agreement on Sudan.

1956 — Soviet Union warns that dispatch of US or British troops to Middle East will violate United Nations charter.

1970 — Israeli air raid on scrap metal plant in Egypt kills 70 civilians.

1974 — Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Soviet Nobel winner, is arrested at his Moscow apartment.

1986 — Andrija Artukovic, 86, is extradited from United States to Yugoslavia to stand trial in killing of more than 700,000 people during Nazi rule in World War II.

1989 — Israeli soldiers kill two people and wound at least three others when they open fire on demonstrators in West Bank city of Nablus.



The parliamentarians from left to right: Inger Lise Gjorv, president of Norway's First Chamber; Helene Mignon, French Parliament; German MP Monika Gansforth; Dutch MP Karla Peij; Hubert Hanquet, Belgian Senate, and Helen Balm, Denmark. (WNL)

Life in territories could turn explosive

Palestinians live in agony

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (WNL): In Gaza, the water tastes salty, and most of the land is parched. Yet, about one third of the 362 square kilometres of the Gaza Strip is lush and green. The green areas are surrounded by barbed wire and electronic security devices that's where 18 Jewish settlements are home to a total of 2,200 people. Packed into the rest of the space in solid refugee camps that have one of the highest population densities in the world are an estimated 500,000 Palestinians.

The deep wells bored by the Israeli settlers have caused the shallower Palestinian wells to dry up and have caused increasing salination. According to a recent United Nations study titled "The Palestinian Economy Under the Israeli Occupation," out of total annual supplies of 800 million cubic metres of water, Palestinians in the occupied territories (Gaza Strip plus the West Bank) are allowed to use only 110 million cubic metres, despite the rapid growth of the population. "Palestinians are not permitted to use their water resources for the development of their economy," the study notes, and increasing salination has impaired the quality of citrus fruits which were one of the main sources of livelihood.

Earning a living in Gaza is not easy. There is no industry to speak of and that is why close to 100,000 Palestinians work in Israel. Or rather, worked. Many of these people, who constitute a major source of cheap labour for Israel, have been on strike for the best part of two years, since the intifada or Palestinian uprising began. Others, who don't want or can't afford to observe the strike orders, are not necessarily free to work any way. A few months ago, the Israeli authorities introduced a controversial system to control Gazans. Anyone who wants to leave the area must have a magnetic I.D. card. It looks like a credit card with holder's picture on it and enables the authorities to monitor an individual's movements. It is similar to the system used for prisoners in "half-way houses" in some Western countries.

Obtaining the new card is difficult, partly because the individual must not feature on any of the authorities' "black lists." With close to 40,000 arrests recorded since the beginning of the uprising, most Palestinian men find it difficult to keep off the dreaded lists — sometimes being stopped for an I.D. check is enough to be listed as a security threat.

A delegation of Western European parliamentarians who recently toured Gaza and the West Bank were shocked to see that their Palestinian driver, although a UN employee, was required to show his magnetic card. The six-member delegation comprising women parliamentarians from France, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Germany and Holland, was on a fact-finding, seven-day mission organised by the Brussels-based Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Co-operation.

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Most were visiting the area for the first time. After two

Free at last

Party, tension, apprehension

(Continued from Page 1)

President F.W. De Klerk, who has lifted a 30-year ban on the ANC, said he was releasing Mandela as a gesture to show the government's commitment to peaceful change in South Africa.

Mandela's route into Cape Town was lined with tens of thousands of people, black and white, some crying with emotion, who seemed on to the road and slowed the speed of the convoy.

But before Mandela could appear on a balcony overlooking the Cape Town Square, violence erupted as marshalls battled to keep control of the huge crowd, the city's biggest since World War Two.

Police fired birdshot and rubber bullets to disperse parts of the crowd after bottle-throwing youths smashed windows and looted shops on the square.

The South African Press Association reported that one person had been killed and 12 injured by the gunfire. First aid workers said one person was killed and more than 200 people injured.

Looters threw clothes on to the pavement and squabbled over their pickings before fleeing into the crowd.

Most of the injured were treated for buckshot wounds, paramedics said. Before the sporadic and scattered shooting began in the late afternoon, more than 60 people were treated suffering from dehydration, fractured limbs caused by the crush of the crowd and injuries suffered when a roof overlooking the grand parade collapsed, hospital officials and paramedics said.

The shooting initially started when police tried to halt looters, continued into the evening, including one heavy burst of police fire at 7.30 pm that sent hundreds of people to the ground to protect themselves from the pellets. Dozens were taken for treatment.

About two dozen soldiers in riot gear massed outside Grand Parade in adjacent downtown area while helicopters hovered overhead.

Clashes between police and celebrating blacks were reported in at least two other areas, while in Johannesburg thousands of young blacks received an escort from traffic police as they ran triumphantly through the city. Columns of cheering activists jogged through Durban and other cities.

Anti-apartheid cleric Allan Boesak, one of the raily organisers, appealed for calm and said people were being crushed by the crowd.

Residents said they had unconfirmed reports that police travelling in a car through Manganese township in the independent homeland of Ciskei shot dead three people among a crowd celebrating the release.

There was no immediate comment from authorities in the homeland, which runs its own police force.

Dr Aslam Dadoo, tending the injured at a first aid station, said about 100 people had been hurt; and journalists counted 130 injuries. There was no immediate statement from police.

In Johannesburg, hundreds of young blacks, joined by a few whites, ran through downtown streets shouting, "Viva ANC" after the release. Traffic police patrol cars cleared the way for them.

In Soweto, the sprawling black township outside Johannesburg where Mandela has his home, crowds of supporters danced and sang in celebration, many under

'New dawn for SA'

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 11, (AP): Amid the scenes of wild jubilation over the release of Nelson Mandela, there were also some ugly confrontations between jeering blacks and angry whites.

Many whites looked worried or scared as they watched cheering and singing blacks surging through parts of central Johannesburg. Elegantly dressed whites shrank back as the black throngs danced around them.

While most people, black and white, were well-behaved, a handful of blacks taunted whites, yelling "Freedom is coming. Whites get out." A few furious whites lashed out, hurling bottles and insults at the blacks.

For some South Africans, the scattered incidents of racial tension were worrying signs of what might happen in the days ahead when the government and anti-apartheid groups attempt to negotiate over ending white rule. Many people in the crowd spoke of the need for peace and understanding between the races.

At the elegant Carlton shopping mall, three young black men surrounded a young white couple, spitting on the frightened pair and shaking fists at them. Other blacks intervened and chased the tauners away.

As blacks surged through Hillbrow, near the city centre, early today some whites in apartments overlooking the street hurled empty bottles at the celebrants. The marchers screamed insults and shook their fists, but no injuries were seen.

Frightened white motorists caught in the milling masses in the streets leaned on their horns or scattered the crowds by driving at high speed. Some clenched their fists in revolutionary salutes in apparent attempts to placate hooting blacks.

A white man watching the celebrants from his doorstep said: "Look at them, look at them. What is happening to South Africa?"

Some black youths pretended to fire imaginary machine-guns at police vans filled with white officers shadowing the celebrants. Other blacks ran up to the vans, yelling "get out, get out."

But much larger groups of blacks shouted "peace, peace, peace."

Most blacks and whites spoke of the need to work out South Africa's problems peacefully. "I pray to God we have peace in South Africa," said one black marcher. "We must all live together."

Leaders on both sides have expressed fears that white and black extremists will provoke violence in the months ahead to try and derail negotiations for their own ends. White extremists demand the retention of white supremacy, while some black militants oppose a compromise with whites.

"I fear what is coming. It will be a terrible time, but we must overcome it by working together," said the Rev. Allan Boesak, a top anti-apartheid leader.

South Africa's biggest black township, Soweto, erupted into a spontaneous party today as thousands of people ignored torrential rain and took to the streets to celebrate the release of Nelson Mandela.

"Mandela brought the rain, it is a new dawn for South Africa," said a drenched young woman wearing the black, green and gold colours of Mandela's African National Congress (ANC).

Rain during a celebration is a sign of good luck in Africa.

Soaked but happy people lined almost every street, watching the young dance and shout, after television showed the veteran black nationalist walking from prison near Cape Town after 27 years behind bars.

But the joyous and light-hearted mood in Soweto contrasted sharply to central Cape Town, where even before Mandela appeared to give a speech, violence erupted as police battled to keep control of the biggest rally in the city for 45 years.

Police fired birdshot and rubber bullets to disperse parts of the crowd after bottle-throwing youths smashed windows and looted shops on the square.

Witnesses said dozens of men and women and at least one child were being treated for shotgun wounds in a makeshift shelter at the side of the city's historic Grand Parade.

In Soweto, which has more than two million people, the party focussed on the street where Mandela's single storey house stands, and to which he is due to go tomorrow.

umbrellas because of a steady rain.

Police fired shotguns and tear gas at a crowd of rejoicing blacks in the Duncan village township outside east London, an Indian Ocean port bordering Ciskei, residents said, adding at least one person was injured.

In contrast, the mood was light-hearted in Johannesburg's black Soweto township, where thousands of people gathered outside the Mandela's tiny "matchbox" house and formed a human chain on hearing news of his release.

Mandela is expected to stay in Cape Town until Monday, when he will return to his home in Soweto.

As he spoke in Cape Town, state television broadcast Man-

da speaking for the first time by showing a profile of the ANC leader that included footage from a 1961 interview he gave to the British Broadcasting Corporation.

The profile also featured recently-taped interviews with a series of anti-apartheid activists rarely quoted by state media including veteran campaigners Helen Suzman and Fatima Meer, Mandela's biographer.

South African television later broadcast taped excerpts from Mandela's Cape Town speech.

Mandela has been living in a former warden's cottage at the Victor Verster facility since December 1988, after moving from the maximum security Robbin Island prison off the Cape Town coast.

"I think he touched a chord in the hearts and minds of the majority of South Africans. It is possibly one of the reasons why he has acquired the status he has now."

At the end of Mandela's speech, said anti-apartheid activist Albretha Sisulu, "You could hear a pin drop... to us, his people, Mandela is everything."

Bizos said Mandela showed



Mandela salutes well-wishers as he leaves prison. (Reuter wirephoto)

Lawyer recalls Rivonia trial

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 11, (Reuter): Nelson Mandela's first act on being sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 was to raise his fist and shout "Amandla" (power), a defiant black nationalist slogan.

"The tables were turned. The accused became the accusers," recalled lawyer George Bizos, a junior member of the legal team that defended eight black activists including Mandela, jailed for life at the "Rivonia" trial for trying to overthrow white minority rule.

He said Mandela's famous address from the dock, in which he said he was prepared to die to achieve a non-racial South Africa, had helped avert a death sentence for the eight.

"What do you do to a man who says 'I am prepared to die for what I

believe in?'" Bizos, 62, told the Star newspaper, adding the defense had deliberately decided to put Mandela on the stand to explain his beliefs.

"The defense was a political defense and not a defense in which people run for cover... it tended to make people, including the judge, sit back and think: 'What are we really concerned with here?'

"I think he touched a chord in the hearts and minds of the majority of South Africans. It is possibly one of the reasons why he has acquired the status he has now."

At the end of Mandela's speech, said anti-apartheid activist Albretha Sisulu, "You could hear a pin drop... to us, his people, Mandela is everything."

Bizos said Mandela showed

"tremendous dignity" and lack of concern for himself during the eight-month trial.

"I was considered a rather inexperienced counsel in some quarters, but Mandela made me feel valuable," he said.

The eight, arrested at their hideout in the Rivonia farm north of Johannesburg in 1963, poked their fists through air vents of a police van as they were driven away at the end of the trial. This provoked defiant roars and freedom songs from hundreds of black supporters gathered outside the court.

The New York Times said: "To most of the world, the Rivonia eight are heroes and freedom fighters, the George Washingtons and Ben Franklin of South Africa."

The most influential of the ANC's black critics is Mangosuthu Buthelezi, chief minister of the KwaZulu homeland and leader of Inkatha, a relatively conservative Zulu organization that claims 1.5 million members.

More than 2,500 blacks have

joined in a three-year power struggle between Inkatha and ANC supporters in Natal Province.

Buthelezi depicts himself as a long-time foe of apartheid and an old friend of Mandela, but he contends that the ANC is unjustifiably trying to claim the role as principal negotiator for the black community.

"It was Inkatha's refusal to be

co-opted into the ANC and its refusal to become a subservient bag-carrier to the ANC that led to the two organizations being in conflict," Buthelezi said after Mandela's release was announced.

"There will be a conference table searching for the formula for a multiparty democracy," Buthelezi added. "Dr Mandela will be there. I will be there, the ANC will be there, Inkatha will be there."

Buthelezi said Mandela, more than any other black leader, has the potential to put partisan interests aside and promote black unity.

One faction that is unlikely to join in negotiations is the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), which along with the ANC was banned in 1960 and legalized by President F.W. de Klerk earlier this month.

The PAC espouses black self-reliance and contends that whites play too large a role in ANC-aligned groups. It has criticised the ANC's increasing interest in negotiations, saying black-white talks should take place only when the government is ready to hand over political power and end white ownership of the bulk of the country's land.

World's most famous prisoner returns to his fold

'Democratic and free society is my ideal for which I'm prepared to die'

CAPE TOWN, (Reuter): Black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela has dominated the fight against apartheid in South Africa for three decades from his prison cell, inspiring fierce loyalty at home and abroad.

President F.W. De Klerk's decision to release the African National Congress (ANC) leader announced yesterday after the two met on Friday, set a landmark in the country's history. The world's most famous prisoner was returning to his supporters.

Once De Klerk resolved to abandon apartheid's rigid race segregation and negotiate a constitution giving blacks a say in government, Mandela appeared as the only man offering the moral authority necessary to represent the many black factions.

Mandela was arrested in 1962 and his last public address was a speech from the dock almost two years later at his trial for sabotage and conspiracy to overthrow the white-ruled government.

Calling himself a nationalist, but not a communist, Mandela said his outlawed ANC had no option but to fight the violence of apartheid with violence of its own.

"I have fought against white domination and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and

free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities," he told the court.

"It is an ideal which I hope to live for and achieve. But, if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."

Mandela was jailed for life with seven others on June 12, 1964, and disappeared to the cold stone cells of Robben Island, an offshore prison near Cape Town, where he was forced to break rocks for more than 12 years until his transfer to a mainland jail.

He refused to bargain for his own release, rejected offers of liberty in exile and shored up the faith of his people through two rebellions against white rule just by being there.

On Robben Island, in Cape Town's modern Pollsmoor prison and recently alone in a luxury prison bungalow among the vineyards of Paarl, his influence remained undiminished through the imprisonment he called "these long, lonely, wasted years."

His transfer to the Victor Verster Prison was widely seen as a prelude to release, but government officials said the final decision would be taken by ex-president P.W. Botha.

In July 1988, just weeks before Botha resigned under pressure from his apparent F.W. De Klerk, Mandela gambled his reputation with a visit to the presidential offices in Cape Town for a 45-minute tea party with his old adversary.

"My task is a very limited one, and that is to bring the country's two major political bodies to the negotiating table," Mandela wrote to Botha, adding that as a prisoner he could not

negotiate himself.

"A meeting between the government and the ANC will be the first major step towards lasting peace in the country," he said.

The sensational meeting, after which Mandela called for peaceful development, paved the way for De Klerk's announcement that he would be set free.

The announcement of Mandela's release came less than four months after De Klerk freed five of Mandela's closest comrades and co-accused and three other anti-apartheid leaders.

Mandela himself is credited with helping his former comrades to liberty during meetings in his prison cell with Justice Minister Kobie Coetze.

For his own part, Mandela insisted always on unconditional release, consistently refusing to repudiate as the price of liberty the ANC guerrilla war against white rule.

Mandela was a founder of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto We Sizwe (spear of the nation), which began a campaign of bombing and urban guerrilla attacks in 1960.

From his prison cell he insisted that the struggle must go on, but he distanced himself from his more hardline supporters.

"We go for hard targets only — military

installations and the symbols of apartheid. Civilians must not be touched," he said in early 1985.

Mandela resisted radical pressure from rival liberation movements, telling an American lawyer in January 1986: "Unlike white people anywhere else in Africa, whites in South Africa belong here. This is their home we want them to live here with us and share power with us."

All who have visited him, even government officials, speak of Mandela's commanding presence — a lean, gentle, white-haired man who speaks softly and deliberately.

Friends from earlier days remarked on his charisma, eloquence and powerful voice. A close friend said that as an orator he had "an animal magnetism that attracts the masses like pollen attracts bees."

Mandela's message has been kept alive by his second wife, Winnie, who was left behind with their two daughters Zenani and Zindzi in Johannesburg's black Soweto township.

Winnie Mandela was detained without trial, banished to a remote town where the local blacks did not speak her language and had her home burned in an attack for which the government eventually paid compensation.

In July 1986 the government lifted the restrictions and she had a brief period of world renown that ended when her personal bodyguard, the self-styled Mandela United football club, became involved in a series of murder and assault investigations.

She was repeatedly reprimanded by her husband until, in February 1989, anti-apartheid leaders publicly repudiated her and she sank from public view.

Her standing improved last October as rumours of her husband's release gathered momentum. She shared the stage with Mandela's co-accused, including Walter Sisulu, as they ended decades of captivity with an ecstatic welcome from supporters.

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela was born in a mud hut in the Transkei in eastern Cape Province on July 18, 1918, the son of a Xhosa chief, and was educated at Fort Hare, a college for blacks.

He went to Johannesburg to study



Soweto residents give the clenched fist sign during a rally held when it was announced that Mandela will be freed. (Reuter wirephotos)



A member of neo-Nazi movement shows a placard asking the govt to free Barend Strydom, who killed eight blacks.



Soweto township residents dance in the streets at the news of Mandela's imminent freedom.

World leaders hail Mandela freedom

LONDON, Feb 11, (Agencies): Nelson Mandela's emergence today from nearly half a lifetime in prison touched off international rejoicing and brought praise from world leaders, tempered by appeals for swifter progress toward dismantling apartheid.

Iran today urged Mandela, to shun an invitation to visit Britain lest he hurt the anti-apartheid cause.

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said Britain was a prime backer of white minority rule in South Africa and responsible for "decades of crimes by whites in Africa."

"If Mandela goes to London, what arrogance deserves will come to pass, that is, achievements of decades of struggle will be thrown to the wind," he told a rally marking the 11th anniversary of Iran's Islamic revolution.

"How come the British prime minister has suddenly become a freedom-lover?" Rafsanjani asked.

King Hussein of Jordan hailed the release of Mandela and said his struggle would inspire Pales-

tinians struggling for independence.

This concession by the government of South Africa and its decision to release Mandela, the freedom fighter, reaffirms the certainty of man's victory everywhere in his just battle against the forces of evil, terrorism and apartheid," the Jordanian King said in a written statement to Reuters.

"The years of his imprisonment will remain a sign of pride and glory in the life of the black people of South Africa and those of their white brothers who constantly fought apartheid.

Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak sent a message of congratulations to Mandela, on his imminent release from 27 years in South African jail, Cairo Radio reported today.

The state-run radio said Mubarak, the current chairman of the Organization of African Unity, told Mandela in a telegram that the decision to release him was a victory for human rights everywhere.

"The decision to release you is a victory for human rights everywhere," Mubarak said.

encouragement goes a long way in these circumstances."

Britain's national news agency, the Press Association, said Thatcher had written to fellow Commonwealth and EEC leaders urging a new, positive approach towards South Africa.

Thatcher, one of Pretoria's mildest critics, is tipped to be the first major Western leader to visit South Africa after Mandela's release. She has already invited President F.W. de Klerk and Mandela to visit Britain.

Thatcher hailed De Klerk's decision to free Man-

da as a wise move and said yesterday she saw no further reason to discourage new investment in South Africa.

Her remarks drew criticism from opposition parties who say pressure against Pretoria must be maintained until the state of emergency is lifted and white-minority rule is ended.

Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock said he had written to Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey, current President of the EEC, urging that sanctions against South Africa remain in force.

The Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) in London said Mandela's release showed that international pressure worked and pledged to oppose any effort by the British government to relax sanctions.

A statement added: "The Anti-Apartheid Movement on this historic day pledges itself to continue the fight against apartheid with all the resources it can command until apartheid is finally destroyed and until all the people of South Africa are truly free."

It called on supporters throughout Britain to write to Thatcher with the message "apartheid must go! Sanctions must stay."

Bloodiest fighting between Christians

Death toll rises to 457

(Continued from Page 1)

Police said about 25,000 Christians have crossed the Green Line's through the mid-city Museum Crossing, a 500-yard (metre) gateway into West Beirut, in the last three days.

Five months ago, the Christians were being slaughtered by Syrian shelling in a six-month battle between Aoun's troops and the Syrian army, which he considers an occupation force.

Nearly 50,000 other Christians have in recent days fled the enclave over the mountains that run down its eastern flank, police reported.

"It's very ironic," said Simon Hasjaj after darting across the Green line. "We're fleeing to the Syrians from Christian leaders battling each other under the slogan of ridding Lebanon of Syrian occupation."

As he spoke, gunfire and shell blasts boomed in East Beirut's Ashrafiyeh residential district and the working-class quarter of Ein Rummaneh, both Geagea strongholds that border the Green Line.

Police said Aoun's troops and Geagea's militiamen fought all night in pouring rain in the narrow alleyways of the two districts. But neither side apparently made any significant territorial gains.

A police spokesman, said shell duels were raging in the snow-capped mountains of Kesrouan, a Maronite Catholic province.

Aoun's troops drove the

Lebanese Forces out of the key highway town of Kfielet in an armoured thrust yesterday.

Mediators representing Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir, the Maronites' spiritual leader, called a ceasefire for 6 pm (1600 GMT) and another for 11 pm (2100 GMT) yesterday. But the fighting continued unabated.

Both Aoun and Geagea are Maronites, the main Christian sect which has dominated power in Lebanon since independence from France in 1943.

France's minister for humanitarian aid assistance, Bernard Kouchner, left Beirut yesterday, admitting he failed to work out a settlement.

Geagea made a new appeal to Pope John Paul II to "redouble Your Holiness' efforts to stop this horrendous bloodbath brought on the Christians by a mad general."

The Christians of Lebanon are threatened with extinction, not at the hands of external enemies, but by Gen. Aoun from within," Geagea said in the appeal broadcast by Christian radio stations.

The push by Aoun's 19,000 troops into Kesrouan underlined the general's determination to crush Geagea's militia, which has 6,000 hardcore fighters and thousands more reservists.

It is the only force challenging his authority in the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Christian enclave, where an estimated one million people live.



On guard

A heavily armed Christian Lebanese Forces militiaman guards an armoured personnel carrier in north of Beirut. Warring Christian armies used a shaky truce to bolster new frontline position north of the capital.

(Reuter wirephoto)

Warring Christians tear Beirut enclave apart

No sanctuary for Lebanon fugitives

BIKFAIYA, Lebanon, Feb 11, (Reuters): For hapless and terrified civilians, there is no place to hide as Lebanon's warring Christians tear their community's enclave apart.

Habib Aoun got his family out of the city suburb of Dora as battles engulfed much of East Beirut. They fled to the mountain villages of the Kesrouan district to the northeast. He thought they might be safe.

But on Saturday the war between

General Michel Aoun's troops and the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia came to the pretty resort of Kfielet, Ajloun and Rayfoun.

Aoun was a refugee again. "God has protected us," he told Reuters on the road south to Bikfaya. "We don't have shelters in the villages, no safe place to hide."

Aoun finally managed to flee Ajloun late on Saturday night after a day of attacks, counter-attacks and

savage bombardments which wrecked many of the red-tiled stone homes.

The shelling was random and indiscriminate. Roads are cratered by shells and there is a lot of destruction," he said.

Aoun's tense journey south to the outskirts of Bikfaya, normally some 30 minutes away by car, took 10 hours amid halts to avoid random shelling.

"We have not slept for two nights.

Bikfaya, hometown of LF founder Bashir Gemayel, lies inland from the coastal strip running from East Beirut to the mountains where both sides have fought for the past 11 days.

Battered cars packed with people and a meagre assortment of possessions streamed away from the mountain villages, where the combatants reinforced positions on Sunday in preparation for another round.

"We have not slept for two nights.

Animals are treated better," said Munir Al Haj, who fled down from Rayfoun. "We had no power, no phone, no food, no water—on top of the fighting."

"We couldn't put our nose outside," said his wife Nabila, who said at least two civilians were killed in their village. "We only knew that all hell broke loose on us. Shells were falling like rain."



All roads leading into Ashrafiyeh are mixed except for an overpass from Muslim West Beirut 50 yards (metres) from the hospital. Locals call it "the ramp of death" because anyone traversing it has to run a gauntlet of sniper fire.

A doctor said at least three people a day are shot on that road trying to get to the hospital.

But the other end is sniper country. Several decomposing corpses have been lying on the muddy road or in cars for days because no one can reach them.

The body of a man lies in foetal position beside a white Mercedes. Another is slumped over the wheel of his Plymouth.

Other burned-out cars, including a Lebanese Red Cross van, litter the street. Nobody stops to count how many dead there are in them. Drivers step on the gas on this stretch.

The International and Lebanese Red Cross have evacuated at least 50 wounded from

Hotel Dieu. Sixteen were sent to France for treatment in a mission organised by Bernard Kouchner, France's minister for humanitarian aid.

One was Michel Baruta, who lost an eye. Her mother, who worked at the hospital, was killed by gunfire as she drove the girl to Hotel Dieu.

The remaining patients, hooked to serum and plasma tubes, lie on beds lining both sides of the corridors on the hospital's first floor and the underground shelter.

Hospital staffers risked their lives to drive to the summer resort of Bikfaya in the mountains 12 miles (20 kilometres) northeast of Ashrafiyeh, to get eggs and meat.

Guita Kazzi, a nurse, said: "We've seen through anything like this before. I've got a cold but they don't give me antibiotics because we keep it for the patients. I have to wear a mask when I get near the patients."

E. Beirut hospital carries on despite direct hits, shortages

BEIRUT, Feb 11, (AP): The little boy cringed in fear when a 155mm Howitzer shell crashed near the battle-scarred Hotel Dieu Hospital, the largest in Christian East Beirut.

His mother sitting at his bedside poured fruit juice from a thermos emblazoned with a Bauman logo and tried to calm him.

"Don't worry, Camille," she said. "It's only Thunder. They're the canons of God. They don't hurt."

"But it's not raining mother," the boy muttered.

The comforting lie no longer works in Lebanon, where the shells have been falling for nearly 15 years of civil war between Muslims and Christians.

This time, Christian is killing Christian as rebel Gen. Michel Aoun's troops and warlord Samir Geagea's Lebanese forces battle for control of the Christian sector.

Camille is one of 150 patients crowded into

the fetid corridors of the French-financed Hotel Dieu.

Alain Tessier, the hospital's French director, said 190 casualties have been brought in over the last 13 days, 21 of them dead on arrival.

More than 450 people have been killed and 1,700 wounded since the bloodletting began Jan. 30.

Surgeon Pierre Farah said some of the wounded died because ambulances could not get them to the hospital through the embattled streets.

"Some had lost limbs, others were badly burned," he said wearily. "They just got here too late."

One who did make it was a Lebanese forces fighter, whose left leg was blown off Feb. 1 by an army shell in nearby Ein Rummaneh.

The militiaman, who did not want to give his name, said: "I was crying for help, but no

one could get to me because of the shelling. Finally, my neighbours came out of their shelter and dragged me in until they could find a car to take me to hospital."

The hospital has been hit by 15 shells. Doctors and nurses evacuated patients from the top two floors because they were so exposed.

Tessier said: "We couldn't count how many shells fell in the gardens because it's impossible to climb on the roof and see. There are too many snipers."

All the telephone lines have been knocked out so Tessier got hold of a radio phone yesterday that connects him directly with the French Embassy.

"Yesterday we had five shells hit around the hospital," he said. "I contacted the embassy and asked them to please tell the army not to target us."

The hospital stands on the edge of the

residential district of Ashrafiyeh, a Geagea stronghold ringed by Aoun's troops to the east. Beirut's dividing green line to the south-east and the Mediterranean to the north.

The hospital is running low on just about everything, bread, oxygen, antibiotics and blood. However, Tessier said the Red Cross got 10,000 litres (2,200 gallons) of water and some bread a couple of days ago during a lull.

Farah noted: "The hospital staff gave their blood to the wounded."

The morgue is overflowing with the bodies because the families of the slain have not been able to get through to retrieve them. The hospital's last well-equipped ambulance was blasted by a shell yesterday.

Those who make it to the hospital past the shelling and snipers have to clamber up a rickety wooden ladder over the back wall because the main entrance is too exposed.

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Be cool, look cool and stay cool

Like a Hurricane: anti-smoking concert

By Fathima Ahmed
ArabTimes Staff

KUWAITI Mohammad Abueljebain stormed into the amateur theatre circle in 1987. Since then, he has carved a niche for himself as actor and singer, appearing in several productions staged by the ACT and Kuwait Players. This year, he has taken a brief "leave of absence" from the ACT, of which he is vice chairman, to rock with the times, and spread a

message: a puff is not worth the huff.

"Like a Hurricane," he promises is certain to make the youngsters sing along they can be "Cool ... without a puff." The concerts are due on Feb 15 and 16. Mohammad is producing the concert featuring the Seventh Sky band and a host of vocalists.

A versatile performer, Mohammad is best known for his exceptional singing talent. His interest in music and theatre goes back to the time when he

was five. "I played the groom in a play, and got married, when I was five, in a school play," he chuckles. Since then, he has married four times — in real life.

His interest in drama did not dull with time. As a student of engineering, he took time off from studies in Texas, US, to study dancing, music and dabbed in the theatre.

"My mind was in singing and dancing," he says as he recalls his student days. And his interest was in acting. He joined his

college drama group and performed regularly, and sang in the college choir.

"My heaviest introduction to theatre was in Kuwait," he admits. He has appeared in successful dramas like Scrooge and An Evening of Absurdity and A Mad Woman of Chaillot, staged by ACT; and Barefoot in the Park, a play done by Kuwait Players. But it was his performance in such musicals as "Music Concert '88" and "Rock the Night" (1988) that drew audience appreciation.

A singer with a natural talent for sounds, he was drawn to the idea of putting on a musical show with a message and began working on the idea of staging Like a Hurricane. As a non-smoker, he feels a "musical anti-smoking message" might go down well with the youngsters.

With the backing of the Kuwait Society for the Prevention of Smoking, he hopes to get a flying start. More than 20 companies are supporting the ambitious two-day concert which is being prepared at a cost of over KD 12,000.

Smoking is common practice in Kuwait, and is fairly widespread among teenagers. More than 10,000 flyers are now being circulated to draw the younger crowd so that the "Be Cool" message can be put across.

"I have taken up a project of this magnitude because I want to tell kids that we can be cool and look cool without a puff," he said. Will he succeed? "Maybe," he says. His "biggest fear" is what big smoking companies might do to little guys like us," he says.

For the moment, the Seventh Sky Band members and Mohammad have set aside jitters and are settling down at rehearsals. "We are concentrating on the music," he said. This ranges from rock and pop to heavy metal.

Well known vocalists Ammar Al Bini, Sako Sarkisian, Murtaza, Reza Shahim and Sandy Kilada, and Mohammad of course, are going to sing a selection of songs ranging from Prince's "Peace, Your the Voice" to Madonna, Deaf Leopard, Queen, Iron Maiden, Brian Adams and White Snake.

The musical director of "Like a Hurricane" is Murtaza Shahim, the leader of the Seventh Sky Band. Murtaza is fairly well-known among music buffs in Kuwait. The other band members are Floyd, Murtaza, Reza, Farid, Khaled, Sako and Sandy.

Before Mohammad came on the amateur theatre scene, it revolved around the expatriate community. Since he joined in 1987, his presence has drawn out the Arab audience. He is banking on both expatriates and Arabs to succeed in his current project. He is also concerned about the absence of a true theatrical ambience.

"There is lack of support for amateur theatre here; the biggest problem is the venue. We can produce a show, but we are always looking for a venue," he says. He says most venues are unsuitable due to "poor acoustics" in a majority of halls.

Of his association with the theatre groups, he says: "There is a certain mystique in making friends, and then losing them when the curtain falls." And being adept at improvisation, he will remain a volunteer performer". He vows never to give up the theatre "for all the money in the world".

"Oh! It's Hard to be Humble"

is his favourite Country 'n' Western song, crooning which he walked into the theatre scene a couple of years ago. And with Like a Hurricane, he hopes to create a hubbub of music.

Like a Hurricane concerts will start at 8 pm on Feb 15 and 16 at the Andalus cinema. Tickets, priced KD 3.4, 5, 6, are available. For reservations, call 573-0265, 574-8476.

Standing: (L—R) Floyd, Mohammad, Murtaza, Reza and Farid; seated: Khaled, Sako and Sandy.

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Dinner party for American delegation

The American Foreign Relations Committee had a dinner party last Tuesday. Upon an invitation from the committee president David Rockefeller, the chairman of the American based Chase Manhattan Bank, and the dinner party was held at Kuwait International Hotel.

A large number of American personalities like Richard Mervy from the Foreign Relations Committee, and the former American president delegate in the Middle East also the American Ambassador in Kuwait and his wife attended the dinner party. A number of Kuwaiti personalities also attended the evening.

The committee members' visit to Kuwait is aimed at improving relations between both countries in all fields.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

MORNING

9.30 Opening and Holy Quran

9.40 Sabah Al Kher, news

9.50 Cartoon serial

10.15 D'Actualite (repetition)

10.30 Shua a Min Al Madhi: Arabic serial (part 3)

11.45 From my kitchen local programme

12.05 Al Malqoof: weekly local serial (part 7), starring Abdul Hussain

Abdul Redha, Mohammed Jaber and Abdullah Khirabi

12.30 News summary

12.30 Holy Quran and closedown

EVENING

4.00 Opening and Holy Quran

4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)

4.45 Saham Al Fadha: cartoon serial

5.15 Mama Anisa and children: local children programme, prepared and presented by Samiya Mohammed

5.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements

6.00 Wa Qala Hakeem: historical serial

7.00 Varieties

7.15 Holy Quran and science: religious programme, prepared and presented by Samiya Mohammed

7.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements

8.00 Cultural programme (part 4)

8.30 Good Evening and local news

9.00 News in Arabic

9.45 Omsiyal Al Ethneen: prepared and presented by Mohammed Al Barjees

10.15 Ahlam Sagheera: local serial (part 4)

11.15 Al Mawed: variety programme (part 6)

12.00 News in brief

12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

KTV 2

6.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran

6.10 Winnie the Pooh: A cartoon series for children

6.30 Wild South: "Eating like a Gannet". Gannet is a seabird that lives on eating fish in a very greedy manner.

7.00 Roving Report: /A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news.

7.30 Trap: "The Phantom Horse Passinac". Julie searches for the sources of the story which her aunt is writing. It is about the "Phantom Horseman".

8.00 News in English

8.30 Around the World: A variety of topics and events from all over the world...

9.00 Tour of Duty: "I wish it would Rain". Goldmann and Alex attend an Embassy party. Zeke and Seymour have to cancel a romantic evening when a psycho breaks loose and they have to find him. Taylor and Parcell have to go find Johnson, where the three of them are trapped by some VC tax collectors.

10.00 Homeeroom: "The Commercial Break".

10.30 Coloured movie: "Africa Screams". Starring Bud Abbott and Lou Costello are on a safari and in possession of a secret map.

11.15 Al Mawed: variety programme (part 6)

CINEMA

Al Andalus

Batman

Salimiyah

Hall Booked

Al Hamra

Arabic film

Drive-in

Beverly Hills Body Snatchers

Al Firdous

Jeene Ke Arzoo

Fahheel

Cold Steel

Al Jabra

C.O.D.

Granada

Time Burst

Salahikhat

Ninja Hunt

Jeeb

Aadil

Ahmadi Drive-in

Shock Troop

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait

Cairo Pharmacy

Fahed Al Salem Street

Al Ajed Pharmacy

Al Mubarak Street

Hawali and Nugra

Al Haitha Pharmacy

Tunis Street

Salimiyah and Rumeithiyah

Qurtuba Pharmacy

Salem Al Mubarak Street

Fahheel and Ahmadi

Abu Hulaifa, Coast Road

Jeeb Al Shuyookh

Palestine Pharmacy

Main Street

Jahra

Al Nour Pharmacy

Matifi Street

PRAYERS

Fair

Zohr

5.10 pm

Asr

3.11

Maghreb



Helmut Kohl

E. Europe looms large over EEC talks

BRUSSELS, Feb 11, (Reuter): The rapid changes in Eastern Europe, especially surprise proposals for German monetary union, are expected to dominate the first meeting of European Economic Community finance ministers this year, EEC sources said.

German monetary union is not formally on the agenda of Monday's one-day meeting in Brussels, but West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel is expected to report on Bonn's offer last week to open talks with East Germany on the subject.

As late as last Friday, German officials were saying Waigel would not attend the EEC meeting, preferring to remain in Bonn for the visit of East German Prime Minister Hans Modrow next week. But he decided to come in order to calm community partners who are worried about a headlong rush to German monetary union.

The finance ministers will also discuss progress of negotiations in Paris to establish a development bank for Eastern Europe, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and they may give a tentative go-ahead to a big medium-term loan to Hungary backed by Brussels.

But it is the sudden proposal for talks on monetary union between East and West Germany which is likely to be the hot topic at the 12-member community's informal lunch on Monday.

While West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has assured Brussels that German monetary union would not deflect Bonn's attention from the wider goal of EEC Economic and Monetary Union (EMU), it raises a host of questions about EMU and the role of the mark as the anchor of the EEC's exchange rate system.

Industrialists to meet in Spain

NICOSIA, Feb 11, (Reuter): Some 450 industrialists from the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) and the European Economic Community (EEC) will meet in Spain on Feb 19 in an attempt to increase economic cooperation.

Delegates to the four-day conference at Granada will discuss the oil and gas industry, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, finance and banking, said GCC assistant secretary-general for economic affairs, Abdullah Al Quweiz, in a statement to Reuters in Cyprus.

Under an agreement last December in Brussels, the EEC is due to scrap all customs duties on Gulf imports except on designated "sensitive" products which include many types of petrochemicals.

TOKYO, Feb 11: The governor of Japan's central bank called for close co-operation among the major industrial nations in correcting international trade imbalances and stabilising currency markets.

Yasushi Mieno, who recently replaced Santoshi Sumita as governor of the Bank of Japan, largely echoed his predecessor's positions in his first news conference as central bank chief, apparently confirming earlier expectations that the switch would have little impact on Japan's monetary policy.

Mieno said Japan's top priority for international monetary affairs is to conduct monetary policy in co-ordination with other Western and Asian nations to resolve external imbalances among major trading nations.

In a remark that appeared to indicate the central bank was unlikely to act soon again on the interest rate front, he said the Bank of Japan would continue to monitor the effects of its most recent hike in the official discount rate.

To ward off inflation due to a weaker yen in international exchange markets, central bankers in Oct raised the fee they charge for borrowing by commercial banks 0.5 percentage

points of 3.75 per cent. It raised the discount rate 0.75 percentage points on May 31.

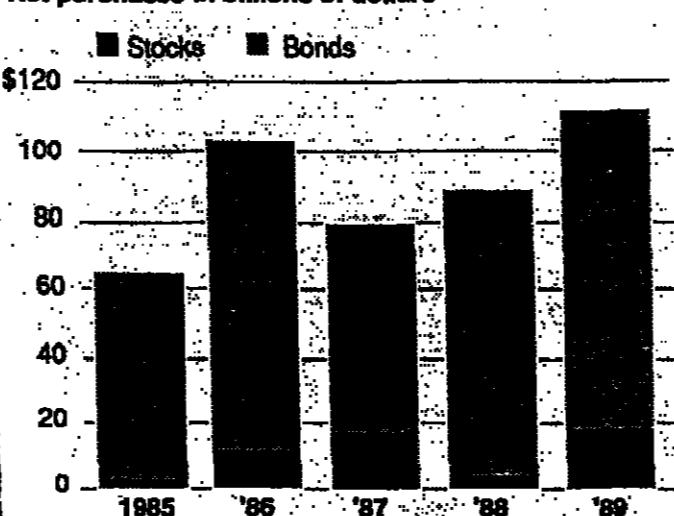
Mieno refused to specify an exchange level he would consider appropriate for the yen, which has weakened against the US dollar in recent weeks despite repeated interventions by the central bank, which has been selling dollars to stave off the need for a further increase in interest rates.

Mieno stressed the importance of maintaining Japan's strong economic growth rate without stimulating inflation and noted that although Japan's inflation indicators have been stable lately, rising import costs have been generating upward pressure on prices.

The Bank of Japan's monetary policy in 1989 was characterised by the official discount rate hikes made to stabilise prices while smoothly expanding central bank credit. The success of discount rate hikes implemented over the past months was thought to be necessary because the price environment deteriorated both at home and abroad: at home with the supply and demand situation for products and labour tightening as business continuously expanded and abroad with the yen trending weak. The effects of the

Japan Boosts Stock and Bond Investments Abroad

Net purchases in billions of dollars



discount rate hikes have been gradually becoming apparent since the start of the fourth quarter. Wholesale prices have started to slow down in growth and a further appreciation of the dollar vis-a-vis the yen has been averted. In and after the third quarter of the year, the central bank further strengthened its "window

guidance" by restraining lending by financial institutions to below the previous year's level and by reinforcing the surveillance of loans for real estate purchases.

The amount of credit extended by the Bank of Japan has been adjusted following the trend of high-powered money (consisting of the cash issued to the market

and the deposits of financial institutions with the Bank of Japan), with sufficient credit extended to meet a robust private-sector demand for funds. To put this another way, the ratio of high-powered money to nominal GNP has been at levels far above its long-term trend.

Even in comparison with a year earlier, high-powered money increased by 9.9 per cent as of the end of November 1989. To respond to the surging demand for cash accompanying the business boom, the Bank of Japan has promoted credit expansion while at the same time promoting credit stability by taking such measures as expanding the scale of government bond buyout operations.

In the months ahead, the Bank of Japan, while keeping an eye on price movements, is expected to work for credit stability in terms of both quality and quantity. This will stabilise interest rates.

Toward the middle of 1990, the yen also is expected to stabilise on the strong side vis-a-vis the dollar because of gradual credit relaxation measures in the United States.

Upward pressure on prices due to rising costs of raw material imports will decrease. Accordingly, the Bank of Japan will allow interest rates to ease down

naturally. The CD rate, in anticipation of the change in the central bank's stance, will come down gradually, reaching the low 6 per cent range by mid-year. Partly because of a favourable supply-demand situation, the yields on government bonds will at times hit the 4 per cent range. After the middle of the year, however, strong domestic economic activity led by personal consumption is expected to slightly increase upward pressure on prices and so interest rates will rise toward the year-end.

The balance of invisible trade, which was in the red in fiscal 1988, will also run a large \$13.9 billion deficit in fiscal 1989 due to both a deteriorating travel balance and increased payments of investment income.

In fiscal 1990, however, the deficit is expected to shrink to \$11.2 billion because the surplus in the investment income balance will expand sharply. One reason for this is that Japan's net external assets are increasing.

Another is that growth in dollar-denominated payments is slowing as a result of declining US interest rates. The deficit in the invisible trade balance is also expected to narrow because, due to the decelerating tempo of the yen's appreciation, the growth of overseas travel by Japanese will slow down though the volume will remain at a high level. As a result, the current-account balance will total \$55.5 billion in fiscal 1990, roughly the same level as in fiscal 1989 (an estimated \$55.1 billion).

Imports have been growing at

a high rate. As crude oil prices are expected to soften gradually, the growth rate of imports will slow down moderately for the time being. All the same, imports in fiscal 1990 will trend firm, registering a 9.9 per cent gain over the previous year (as against the 14.3 per cent rise posted in fiscal 1989).

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Imports have been growing at

ABC to sell shares to foreign investors

Bank's assets jump

BAHRAIN, Feb 11, (Reuter): Arab Banking Corporation BSS (ABC), the Arab world's largest bank, said today it would become the first Gulf-based firm to offer its shares to foreign investors on the open market.

ABC president Abdullah Saudi told reporters the bank would transfer its entire 1989 profit of \$1.32 million to loan loss provisions to pave the way for a planned \$250 million public share flotation in the first half of 1990.

"The board of directors felt strongly that in the light of the forthcoming share placement, the balance sheet should be strengthened by bolstering loan loss provisions in line with prevailing international levels," Saudi said.

He said Bahrain's government had told ABC it would allow people from countries outside the six-member Gulf Co-ope-

ration Council (GCC) to trade its shares on the island's stock exchange, making it the first Gulf bank to do so.

"We expect a law announcing this to be issued in the next few days. It will set the trend for other international companies to be traded in local markets," he said.

ABC is owned equally by Kuwait's Finance Ministry, the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

"ABC will continue to make more efforts to penetrate Arab markets in the 1990s and the share issue is an indication of our keen interest to proceed with this policy," Saudi said.

The GCC grouping Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates at present allows only its own nationals to trade shares in local stock markets.

Money from the flotation

would be used to set up a subsidiary in Europe to incorporate ABC's branches in London, Paris and Milan under one umbrella and give it a foothold in Europe after its markets unify in 1992.

Saudi said a final decision on the subsidiary, with a paid-in capital of \$250 million, would be made in 1990.

A bank statement said total income fell four per cent to \$506 million in 1989 due to non-payment of interest by some Latin American countries, particularly Brazil and Argentina.

The decline was compensated for by an increase in fees and commissions, which rose by 30 per cent to \$179 million.

Assets jumped 13.6 per cent to \$21.73 billion in 1989 while deposits rose to 18.09 billion from 15.88 billion in 1988.

Kapadia addresses the investors' conference.

A view of the audience.

Ajith C. Kapadia, the managing director of Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited, is currently visiting Kuwait to meet the potential investors, since the company is entering the capital market with an issue of 10,000,000 equity shares of Rs10 each for cash at par. The issue opened on Feb 5 for NRIs. Kapadia organised an investors conference yesterday at the Kuwait Continental Hotel to brief the NRIs about the issue.

Economic power has a role to play

Japan, US friendship is 'a major pillar of global stability'

WASHINGTON, Feb 11: "The United States must continue to lead the world... it must become a great nation again," a senior leader of Japan's ruling conservative Liberal Democratic Party said in an almost plauding tone one evening over dinner.

The politician says he believes deeply in the fundamental importance of Japan's friendship with the US. Yet he also fervently defends Japan's record on trade and economic disputes with the US.

Americans don't try hard enough to sell in Japan, he regularly pronounces in meetings with American officials. He castigates American visitors, saying the US must tackle its own problems first, such as its budget deficit and its social problems.

Such assertiveness, many observers say, reflects a deepening sense of confidence and a growing feeling of nationalism in Japan. But the politician's faith in America reflects as well the paradox of Japanese power today. The continued unwillingness to move out from under the shadow of the postwar alliance with the US.

"A large majority of responsible Japanese leaders have found it virtually impossible to think beyond a world where the United States is of primary importance to Japan and where the Japan-US friendship is a major pillar of global stability," Takashi Inoguchi, a Tokyo University professor, wrote in an academic journal earlier this year.

Japan's emergence from the devasta-

tion of World War II to become the world's second-largest economy has led many to conclude that the nation will naturally seek an equivalent political leadership role. Some American commentators have even predicted the emergence of a "Pax Niponica," a Japan-led world order. Some see the beginning of that era already in Asia, where Japanese money, technology, and trade ties are predominant.

"Japan is becoming the core economy in Asia," observes Robert Sutter, an Asia specialist at the Congressional Research Service in Washington. "Which means a relative diminution of US influence in Asia."

The Westernizing intellectuals who helped led Japan's modernisation from the mid-19th century looked to the West for their ideas. They believed they could set an example for other Asian nations whose development was stagnated by feudalism and colonialism. But that more enlightened concept rapidly degenerated into Japan's attempt to build its own Asian empire from the late 19th century through World War II.

The Japanese Empire offered its Asian subjects a Pan-Asian doctrine of racial solidarity against Western imperialism, embodied in the wartime goal of creating a "Greater East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere."

"Japan had a role in Asia, which was to establish the independence of Asian people from the domination of white people," says Seisuke Okuno, a conservative politician who served as government

official during the war.

Some Asian leaders found that claim credible, including the men who were leaders of independence movements in Burma, India and Indonesia.

For Asians, the most worrisome prospect is the marriage of Japan's economic strength with military power. With the US urging it to play a greater military role, Japan has been engaged in a steady buildup of its defence spending and capability.

Economic writer Akira Kojima compares Japan today to the US after World War II, when America also enjoyed a huge surplus with the rest of the world. The US recycled 70 to 80 per cent of the total surplus to other countries through programmes such as the Marshall Plan, points out Kojima, who writes for the Nihon Keizai Shinbun, Japan's largest economic daily. "In (the case of) Japan, 10 percent has been recycled."

The Japanese government is in the middle of a five-year \$50 billion programme to recycle funds to developing countries. Japan has taken the initiative to promote solutions to the third-world debt problem. And Japanese government foreign aid has grown to about \$10 billion a year, around that of the US.

But while the US surplus was in the hands of the government, the Japanese money is largely controlled by the private sector, by Japanese industrial companies, banks, and others. They recycle the surplus in the form of overseas invest-

ment and increased imports. Such transfers are catalysts in promoting the rapid growth and industrialisation of Asian nations such as Thailand and Malaysia.

In the last few years, Japan has taken on a more global role, joining in defining policies on problems such as the environment or debt. While Japanese assertiveness worries some Americans, the Bush administration and its predecessor have encouraged it. Secretary of State James Baker III calls for a "global partnership," exemplified by the joint US-Japan effort to aid the Philippines.

More often, in practice, it means the US defines the goals, as in Eastern Europe, and Japan contributes the money.

While the Japanese seek a more equal partnership, there is little serious discussion about breaking with the US. Japan's economic involvement with the US is too large and so much of its assets are in US dollars.

"We are destined to cooperate," says Kojima, who describes the situation as an economic version of the nuclear war-fare doctrine of MAD (mutually assured destruction) in which neither side can afford to go to war.

At the same time, Japanese policymakers clearly envisage that if there is one area in which Japan can take the lead, it is in Asia. The promotion of a regional economic organisation is evidence of that thinking.

The Christian Science Monitor, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

R.J. Reynolds, the international tobacco manufacturers, makers of Winston cigarettes, with the participation of W.J. Towell, their distributor in Kuwait, invited a host of managers and employees of co-ops, retail outlets and wholesalers to a dinner banquet at the SAS Kuwait Hotel in the Tent Ball Room.

Fadiqul Bakhazi, resident field sales manager of RJR addressed the audience and thanked them for their participation and their fruitful cooperation in the past and stressed the fact that such a co-operation should prevail for the benefit of all who are involved. Then he explained about the Winston cigarette, its new image in the '90s, announcing a fresh start for it.

Michael Costandi of TMI Advertising, then took the stand and briefed the audience about the role of advertising in promoting a product and he exhibited some of the various executions of advertisements to be used for Winston in the '90s. Picture above shows a senior executive addressing the meeting.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 11/2/90		
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent
07	Anyangjiang	M. Bahar
14	Ibn Qutaybah	KSA
		4843150
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT		
ETA	Ships Name	Agent
11/02	Volosko	M. Bahar
11/03	Royal Traveller	A. Bahar
12/02	Gao Cheng	M. Bahar
		2401900

Prisoners raise funds for handicapped

Big-hearted women help little Stacey

PRISONERS and staff at a tough women's jail are raising the money to buy a little handicapped girl a happy new life.

Stacey Clark, aged four, needs £50,000 to send her to a Hungarian institute that will help her to walk and talk. And the people of the prison are determined to give £20,000 of this sum.

A girl serving a life sentence is helping to organise the appeal so that Stacey, who suffers from cerebral palsy can go to the revolutionary Peto Institute in Budapest. It leads the world in treating children with cerebral palsy by a unique programme of "conducive" therapy.

Big-hearted women from the Holloway prison, in north London, are raising the money for the mercy trip through events that range from sponsored "swimathons" in the prison pool to staff barbecues and sales of craft work made by prisoners in their spare time.

So far, they have £5,000 towards their target figure. And the prisoners — serving sentences for everything from theft to murder — and staff are determined that Stacey will soon be on her way.

Today, Stacey can sit up and crawl, but she has serious trouble walking and her worst problem is her badly affected speech. Although she is bright for her age, she finds it difficult to talk. The Peto could help her to communicate, and lead a normal life when she grows up.

The mercy crusade started when Stacey's grandfather, Billy Bell, who works at the prison as a painter and decorator, told staff of her plight. Generous prisoners and officers sprang into action.

Appeal

Stacey's mother, 24-year-old Marie, told me: "Everyone, at Holloway has been really great. It was quite surprising by their interest at first. But when we went there to visit, they were all incredibly friendly and nice.

"It's lovely to see the girls making a fuss of her when she goes swim in the prison pool, and she loves the attention, too. They're sort of amities to her as far as she's concerned."

"They are Stacey's main fund raisers now and we really are grateful for all their hard work on her behalf. We might not have been expecting their help but we'd be lost without it."



Some members of the enthusiastic fund-raising team: the prisoner Maria Dempsey (centre) with Lisa Elford, serving a three year sentence, and prison worker Sean Graham

The appeal for Stacey is being run by staff and prisoners. One of them is 27-year-old Maria Dempsey, who has served 14 months of a life sentence, and is helping to organise the other prisoners.

She told me: "I was up half the night making posters for the appeal, but it's worth the effort. Stacey is special to us all, and I think the world of her."

"When I first got here, I was lazily around doing nothing, feeling apathetic. But once Stacey took my interest, she gave me quite a lot to go for. I even seemed to get on better with the staff."

"Generally, I just make sure that inmates know what is going on. The appeal is a morale booster because it gives you a purpose and something to occupy your mind, rather than just sitting around."

"It's not true that you're locked away in a cell all day once you're inside prison. You can take part in things — like the swimathon for Stacey. That took a lot of organisation and help. But the girls all stuck together, and in the end, we had a good laugh, as well as getting £1,500."

The prison staff running the appeal have asked to remain anonymous to keep the attention focussed on Stacey, and for security reasons. But the chairwoman of the appeal, who is a senior officer, says she has been overwhelmed by people's generosity.

Looking through a bundle of letters, she told me: "Small local business in particular have been very good about giving donations. We've written to about 200 companies and most have responded, even if it's just to say, 'No, but sorry.'

Cause

"Arsenal, the local First Division football team, gave us signed photographs to use as raffle prizes. And companies have been lavish with prizes. But, I'm not saying we couldn't do with more."

"Of course, Stacey is the reason for the appeal. But it has also been good for the prison because it brings together people from different departments for a common cause. It's nice that staff and inmates have given up so much of their time."

"There's a good spirit about this appeal. We've contacted the social committees of every big prison in Britain, and their staff have brought in a lot of money. Big and small donations are just as important. A pensioner sent in a £5 note with an apology that she couldn't spare more. That really counts to us."

Caring for Stacey hasn't been easy for Marie and her 27-year-old husband Kevin, a telephone engineer. They have two other children, Lisa, aged seven, and one-year-old baby Dean to look after as well. Money is tight.

But when I finally met the family in their immaculate north London council house there was a relaxed, happy atmosphere.

The children were playing together and Stacey was pushing herself along a brightly-painted plastic tricycle.

Housewife Marie, said: "Stacey is a lovely little girl. The worst part is that, because she's handicapped, we have to fight for absolutely everything. We have enough on our plates as it is without that extra strain to cope with."

"For instance, we had a three-year wait for a white pair of boots to support Stacey's feet. Before that, she had to wear red all the time. So if I put a pretty turquoise dress on her, the effect was ruined. Then she can go upstairs and play with her sister Lisa when she wants to, instead of having to ask mummy to take her."

"She needs special equipment to help her walk, but we can't always afford to buy it ourselves and it can take months to arrive from the social services. With Stacey, we shouldn't be wasting any time."

Strain

Kevin added: "There's also the strain of waiting to hear from the Peto Institute. There's a long list and we're not sure when our turn will come. For us, the sooner the better. We're just keeping our fingers crossed. Hungary is the ultimate place for the therapy Stacey needs so, hopefully, they can help her. That's where we're putting our faith."

"It will be a lot of upheaval when our turn comes, but you've got to do what you think is best for your child. If there's nothing in this country to help her, then

we obviously have to go elsewhere."

"When you've got a handicapped child, you can never be sure that you're doing the right thing for her. All you can do is hope that you've chosen the correct method and the one that's best for her."

"We've made it clear that, if she does walk before we get to Hungary, then we won't go to the Peto. Instead, we'll leave the money in a trust fund for all the other expenses she'll need in her life. Things like a computer to help her learn to read and talk. We want to make that clear."

Marie told me that one of the most difficult problems to overcome is other people's attitudes towards handicapped children. She said: "Often, Stacey will cry to be put down. Then people will scold me because I won't let her walk. I have to say it's because she CAN'T walk."

"The other annoying thing is people who talk to her through me, as if she's too stupid to understand. I feel like saying, 'Why don't you ask her? That's not a dummy in the pushchair, it's a little girl.'

Bright

"The worst part is that Stacey understands everything and is very bright. It must make life very frustrating for her. For that reason, it's particularly important that she learns to walk so that she can become independent. Then she can go upstairs and play with her sister Lisa when she wants to, instead of having to ask mummy to take her."

"Stacey is doing her best to chip into the conversation, and she obviously knew we were talking about her. Crawling over to Marie, she demanded a cuddle by flashing a winning smile."

As Marie picked Stacey up, she said: "Stacey is getting brighter, but she gets cross with herself when she can't make herself understood. She needs a lot of help in that area and part of the fundraising is to pay for private speech therapy."

"Part of her brain is not working properly. But we have to ignore that and concentrate on the areas that are working. There's great potential. It really is just rigorous training. The more she is pushed and worked, the more likely she is to make



Family portrait: Kevin, Marie, Stacey, Lisa and baby Dean

"She's a stubborn little thing. It's because she is so strong-willed that she has got as far as she has. I really think that, with help, she'll manage. Perhaps she'll be looking after us one day..."

And Marie told me: "Underneath it all, Stacey is just the same as everybody else. It can be difficult getting that through to people. With the help of all the girls at Holloway, perhaps she'll be able to prove that fact for herself one day."

'Cocktail' of allergies

'I'm allergic to my husband'

EVEN though Jennifer Jones loved her husband, she found herself screaming and crying every time he came near her. For she had one of the world's most amazing complaints... she was allergic to her husband.

They started sleeping in separate bedrooms and then, because of the strain of 46-year-old Jennifer's illness, husband Colin left her.

Doctors discovered that Jennifer was also allergic to nearly everything that part of living in the twentieth century.

Electricity, gases, foods and chemicals make her come out in humps, bumps and rashes. She can't watch television or listen to the radio. And a trip to the shops, because of all the electricity about, can put Jennifer in bed for three days.

But now life is slowly improving for the housewife from Weybridge, Surrey.

A top allergy specialist has given her a gadget she calls "my resuscitator". This is a small test-tube filled with electrically charged water, which she holds in her hand.

The tube gives out an electrical current... which helps Jennifer fight her allergy to modern living.

She told me: "Now I can drive a car, and go on trains. I have been to the hairdresser for the first time in five years and I am allowed to watch one video on the television a month."

But things are still tough for Jennifer. She explained: "If I go near things that emit particular frequencies, or if I come into contact with certain gases, I start to scream and writhe. My legs turn to jelly and I just collapse in a heap."

But there has been a special tonic for her. Husband

Colin, aged 54, has come back to Jennifer. She discovered that, because he is a dentist, she is allergic to the gas and electricity from his surgery. Now he never comes near her in his "working clothes".

She told me: "Colin is a dentist and used to have the surgery in the house. So, with all the gas, and the electricity from the X-ray machine, I was very ill. Colin had gas clinging to his hair and clothes. So, every time he came near me, I reacted. I used to scream and cry until he came near me. I reacted. I used to scream and cry until he left the room."

"We used to sleep in separate bedrooms because I couldn't tolerate being near him. One night, Colin said, 'You're allergic to me.' And I had to agree with him."

Finally he left me, which is understandable. He tried to cope with me for as long as he could, but eventually it all became too much.

But Jennifer was determined to fight the allergies that were threatening to ruin her life. She went to see allergy specialist Dr Jean Monro, who gave her two weeks of tests. She said: "When I got the results, I was reeling. They said I was reactive to practically everything."

For a while, things improved as Jennifer took a course of vaccines for her allergies. Then tragedy struck. Jennifer discovered she had breast cancer. The radiotherapy treatment for this worsened her allergy to electricity and cancelled out the good the vaccines were doing her.

But the disease brought Jennifer and Colin back together again. She explained: "I had asked Colin to check up on me every day, because I was alone in the house. One



Jennifer with her "resuscitator," the test-tube full of electrically charged water which she says has changed her life

day he came over to help me clean the leaves out of the garden, because I didn't have the strength to do it. And Colin simply decided to stay with me."

And there was more good news as doctors told Jennifer her cancer was cured. And today, although she is registered as disabled, her "resuscitator" is helping her to enjoy life at last.

She explained: "The gadget is designed to cure my sensitivity to electricity by transmitting at a certain frequency. It burns my hand but it has changed my life."

"Before I had my resuscitator in April, I couldn't even get 100 yards up my road without feeling wobbly."

A day of penance — splashing in the waters

BATU CAVES, Malaysia (AP): The predawn mist melted quickly on Thursday last week, but was replaced by swirling smoke from tiny devotional fires as pilgrims prepared for a day of penance.

They began their rites at the river, splashing in dirty water and praying with relatives and friends. Toddlers were led into the stream by their mothers.

A man dressed only in shorts and with his head freshly shaved stepped from the water into a shuffling dance while others chanted encouragement and lit incense.

His eyes glittered. He drooled, and his limbs twitched spasmodically. The chanting became louder and his dance more frenzied as sacred ash was slapped on his head. The frenzy subsided in a few minutes. He seemed to fall into a trance.

Helping hands perched him on a small stool and carefully forced a metal spike on the size of a knitting needle through his cheeks. A smaller rod was run through his tongue from top to bottom. Helpers attached barbed hooks weighted with limes to his back.

He didn't bleed and suffered no apparent pain.

This was Thaipusam in the Tamil lunar month of Thai, when the moon is in transit across the brightest star, Pusa, in the zodiacal sign of Cancer. It was Feb 8 in Malaysia this year and the scene at Batu Caves, nine miles (15 kilometres) north of the capital Kuala Lumpur, was repeated at

other places in the country by the Hindu devout.

Kavadi carriers passed a ferris wheel and several acres (hectares) of temporary stalls offering food, drink, clothing, toys, wood carvings and pictures of Indian movie stars. Baubles, bangles and beads were available along with balloons, vitamin pills and "Govinda's" vegetarian pizza."

Bearded mendicants solicited alms. Small boys sold camphor pellets to be burned in devotional flames by the faithful once inside the cave. A tour director cautioned his camera-toting charges against pickpockets.

There is no religious restriction or entrance fee for non-Hindus, and thousands of bedazzled foreigners were on hand, many of them on package tours, part of the government's Visit Malaysia year promotion.

Kavadi carriers shuffled faster and whirled in circles as they approached the steps. Several insisted on making the climb in quick spurts of 20 or more steps at a time.

The stairs are divided in the middle, with the left side reserved for ascent and the right for descent. Soldiers, police and white-suited first aid attendants helped control the crowd.

The vast limestone cave was lit inside by strings of electric lights, devotional fires and a beam of daylight from a vertical shaft through the top at one end.

Thousands packed the main floor of the cavern, which smelled of incense, sweat, joss sticks and bat dung.

Penitents headed for a grotto holding the jewel-encrusted image of Lord Subramanian. A priest removed the spikes and some kavadi carriers collapsed in exhaustion and religious fervor. Sacred ash and lime juice was applied to their wounds, but even after the trance lifted there was no apparent pain.

Several years ago, researchers from the United States and Australia separately investigated the seeming lack of pain, but without conclusive results. They did say that the sacred white ash, found to be mostly burned cow manure, and lime juice was applied to their wounds, but even after the trance lifted there was no apparent pain.

The few willing to talk about their deed said it was done for intensely personal reasons. One said he vowed to carry a kavadi for three years after he regained his health after a motorcycle crash. Another said he did it to honour his father.

The tradition at Batu Caves originated before the turn of the century, said temple chairman S. Sockalingam. Hindus in India have many sacred places in hills and mountains and there are celebrated cave temples. Tamils from southern India brought the observance of Thaipusam when they came to what was then Malaya to tap rubber.

India has banned such self-torture but it continues here with unabated fervor.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: My brother has been informed he is suffering from cirrhosis of the liver. However, he has had no symptoms until recently, when he visited his physician because of a weight loss. Do you feel the doctor was right in his diagnosis, and could you please explain how this disease developed?

ANSWER: It's difficult to comment on the correctness of the diagnosis without more information as to the findings of the examination and laboratory tests, but I can tell you that the condition of cirrhosis may develop over a period of time without many warning signs.

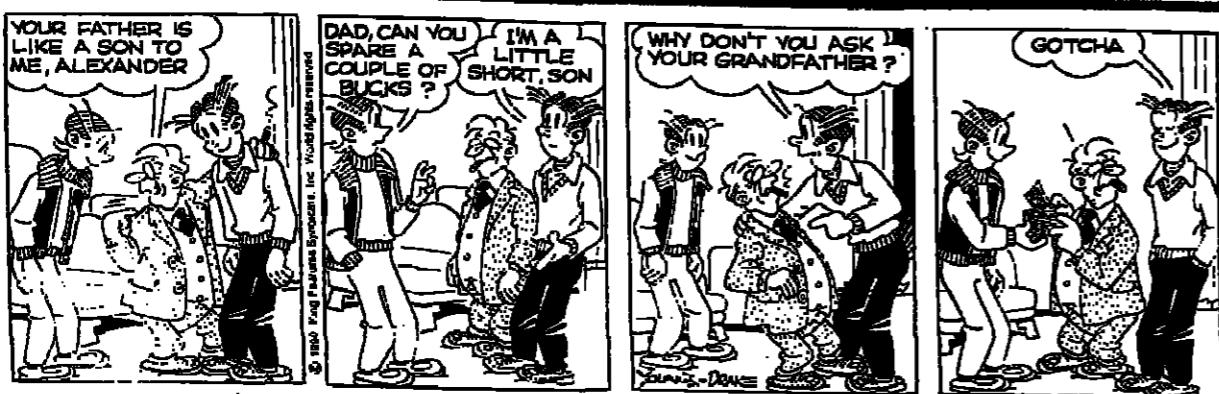
Cirrhosis is the result of an ongoing situation during which the liver cells are damaged and replaced by scar tissue. As the amount of normal tissue decreases, the liver can't handle the many functions it must perform in the normal individual and the symptoms become apparent in a gradual fashion.

Perhaps the first is a loss of appetite, which leads to deficient nutrition and a loss of weight, the situation you allude to in your question. The appetite loss can transform into actual nausea and then vomiting, further complicating the weight problem. A physical examination at this time can reveal a liver that is larger than normal, and close inspection of the skin may show the first signs of yellowing or "jaundice," which results when the liver can no longer remove certain bile pigments that are deposited in the skin.

The few who are able to tolerate the diet and the weight loss may experience an increased sensitivity to medications and drugs.

All symptoms do not appear in all patients, and it is the task of both patient and physician to deal not only with these symptoms, but to discover the cause of the cirrhosis and remove it if possible. While there are many causes for liver disease that produce cirrhosis including infections, exposure to toxic chemicals and drugs, as well as drug reactions, in many cases

BLONDIE — By DILYBIR YOUNG — See Page 1



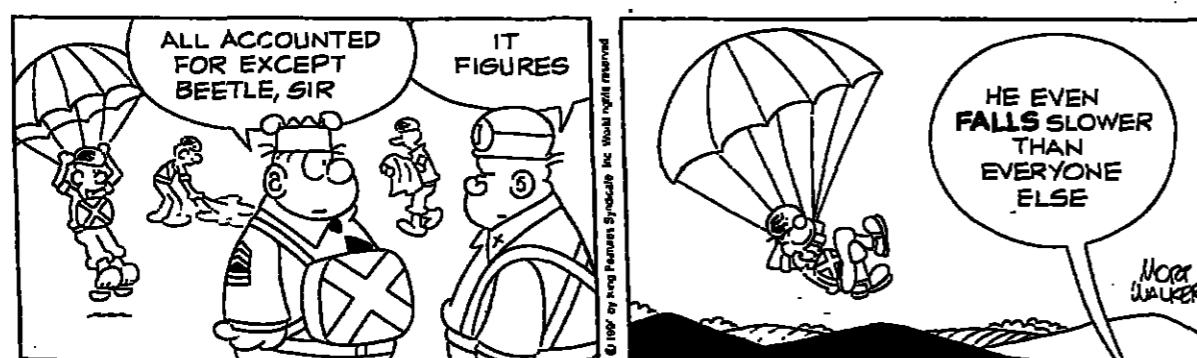
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By DILYBIR YOUNG



AGATHA CRUMBLE — By BIL ROESE



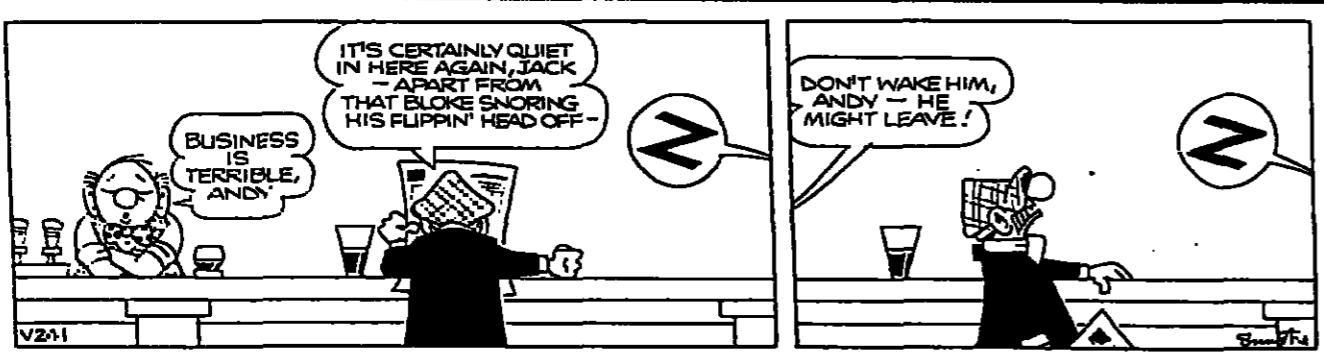
BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



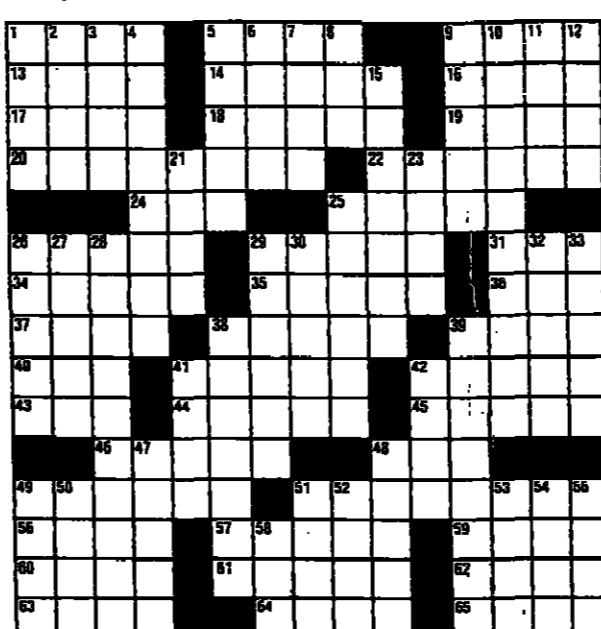
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES SOREN AND OMAR SHARI

THE COUNT SHOWS HOW IT'S DONE

North-South vulnerable. South declarer had nothing to fear from the opening lead, he eschewed his club and won in hand. A low club was led at the second trick and, when West followed with a low club, declarer finessed dummy's nine without even blinking an eye. West gazed at South suspiciously, and declarer quickly wrapped up 10 tricks.

Since declarer had nothing to fear from the opening lead, he eschewed his club and won in hand. A low club was led at the second trick and, when West followed with a low club, declarer finessed dummy's nine without even blinking an eye. West gazed at South suspiciously, and declarer quickly wrapped up 10 tricks.

The bidding: South West North East
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass PassOpening lead: Queen of \hearts

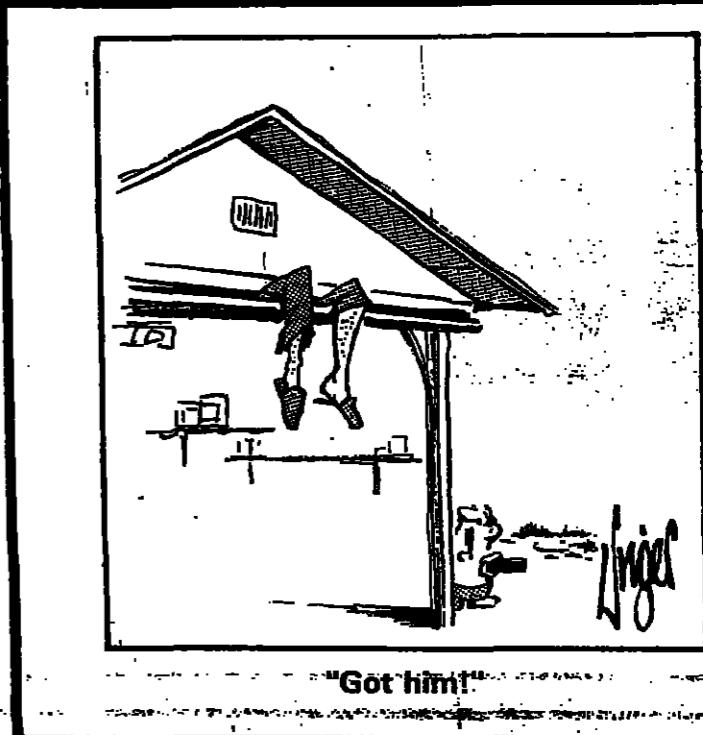
If you are playing against an expert who makes a play that looks as if he peeked at your cards, it won't help to hold your hand back from the table in the future. We can assure you there was a sound reason for the line chosen.

With five top-card tricks in the other three suits, declarer needed no more than four tricks from the club suit. When he took the club finesse, it was immaterial whether it won or lost—all declarer risked was a meaningless overtrick. At least four club tricks were guaranteed on this line of play, since declarer still retained an entry to dummy with his second club.

ACROSS	60 Sheltered, naively	26 "Very Good"
1 Yesterday's roast today	— Kern	27 Betel palm
5 Information, with "the"	28 Blank looks	29 Fly
9 Eat away	30 Cornwall coins	32 Penthouse.
13 Italian peak	in a way	33 Zasu of the movies
14 LuPone's hit role	34 "Mommy" —	38 "With gusto"
16 Dietary staple	2 To you, to Alain	41 Concept
17 Horse with a mixed coat	3 Horse fault	42 Wagon
18 Ere, for one	4 Comely	47 Preferences
19 Taj Mahal site	5 Crumble	48 A Yukum
20 Major swaps	6 Trotter's route	49 Wrap-up abbr.
22 Renoir subject	7 Brooches	50 Actress
24 Snoop	8 Zeta's follower	51 Walesa,
25 Seine-side lid	9 Reduce cheese to bits	for one.
26 "The Gold Bug"	10 Cabarets	52 Meat choice
author	11 Back 40 unit	53 Thought
29 Separated	12 Tear's companion	54 A complete special, e.g.
31 Baseball wear	15 Marathon man Salazar	55 Medieval domestic
34 Word with aero or hippo	21 Olympic blade	56 Ruminant's chew
35 Outlets of a kind	23 Dance and music	
36 Floral neckwear	25 Soho sausage	
37 Astronaut Slayton	38 Wild dog, Down Under	
38 Wild dog, Down Under	39 Offend	
39 Offend	40 Rocks	
40 Rocks	41 Serenity	
41 Accountant's entry	42 Accountant's entry	
43 Attention	44 By-and-by	
44 Demolishes	45 Distress signal	
45 Links standard	48 Stretch or May	
46 Recess at school	51 Clock sound	
50 March 15, for one	57 Newshound's prize	
	59 March 15, for one	

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

TOSCA	MILLS	ETON
ALTAR	EDIE	DIME
LIENS	ALEC	UNIT
COWCOLLEGE	CATS	
ENEL	EDONA	
ERAL	WAD	EATSUP
DAG	PINES	SEINE
GROVES	OFAC	ACADEME
EERIE	NOVEL	GAR
DEARLY	EEL	BENS
GEAR	THE	
MAGI	HALL	LISTOFIVY
AMEN	OTGSE	BORES
MINI	OILS	ORATE
AREA	SOLE	SENROR



"Got him!"

YOUR STARS



Aries
March 21 - April 19

There will be some new elements which will have to be taken into account. Do not think that you do not need any advice and consider such as you get carefully. Do not trust too much to luck or rely on chance. Be considerate.



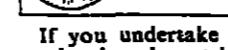
Cancer
June 21 - July 22

Something you learn a little while ago will now stand you in good stead. Indeed it will help you to meet fierce competition. You should beware of believing all you bear of what you would like to be the case. Be tactful.



Taurus
April 21 - May 20

You are more prone to accidents and should be especially wary today. Something you had been expecting will not come up to expectations. Never mind, it could have been a lot worse. Be sensible.



Leo
July 21 - Aug. 22

If you undertake your own repair then do not be slapdash about it. Indeed ask yourself whether you would not be better off to employ an expert. And avoid indulging an extravagance. Be tolerant.



Gemini
May 21 - June 20

You will tend to feel rather sorry for yourself. Instead you should think how much better off you are than many others. Now is a good time to do something you have long meant to do. Be generous.



Virgo
Aug. 22 - Sept. 22

Something you had expected will happen, but it will not be at all as bad as you had imagined it. In fact it will be a lot better than you had feared. However, you should avoid any hint of complacency as a result. Be respectful.



Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 22

A tendency towards exaggerations must be combated. Be sure that you keep your side of a bargain, even though the other party may not quite do so. Do not allow yourself to be sidetracked or otherwise distracted. Be fair.



Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 20

You should take care not to go to extremes as well as not to exceed limits. You should be extremely careful if you are about to lift any weights, nothing too heavy. A kindly gesture will be much appreciated. Be meticulous without being fussy.



Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 19

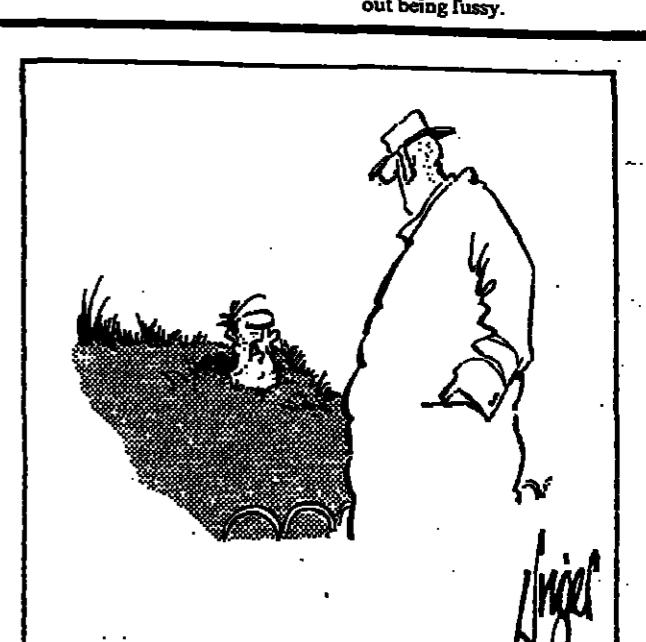
You will have some good luck but more by way of what might have but did not happen. You should have a little more faith in yourself. And do all you can to bolster up your enthusiasm. Be to the point.

A good opportunity will tend to pass you by, but there will be another one if you act swiftly. There is a likelihood of mistakes made by others as well as by you, so watch out for them.

A good opportunity will tend to pass you by, but there will be another one if you act swiftly. There is a likelihood of mistakes made by others as well as by you, so watch out for them.



"And when we come back, I'll be introducing you to someone who clearly demonstrates the falsehood that 'all men are created equal.'"



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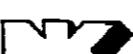
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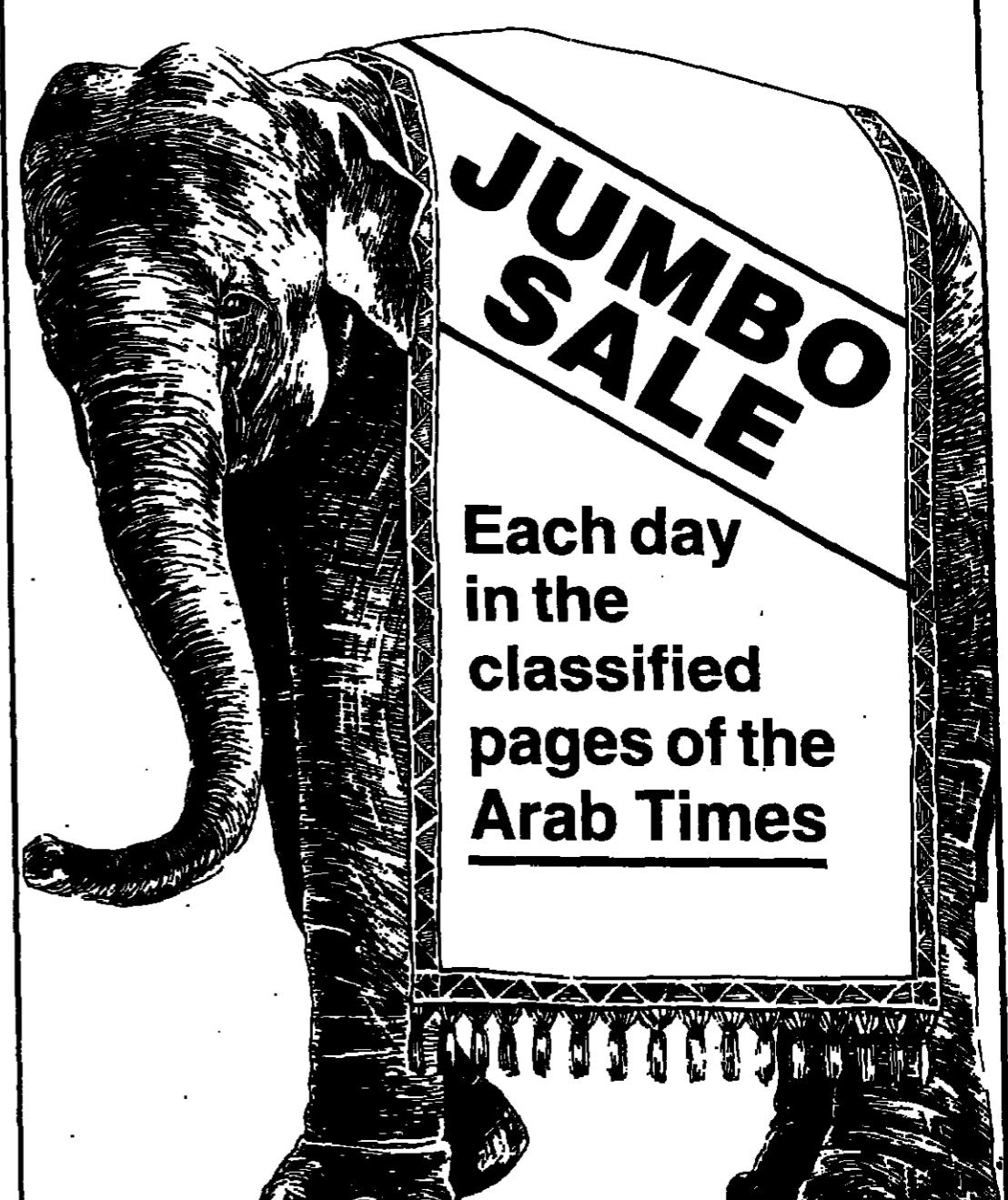
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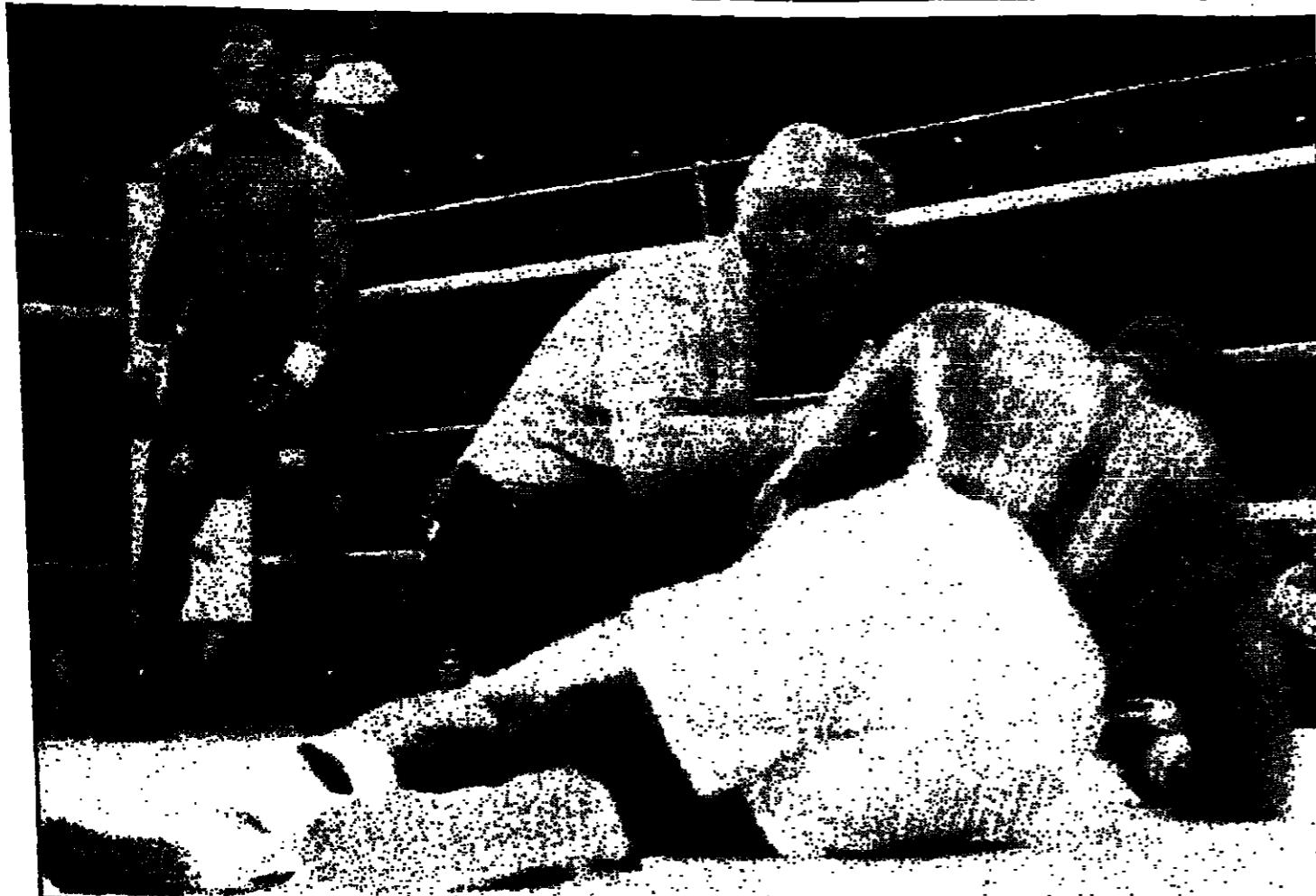
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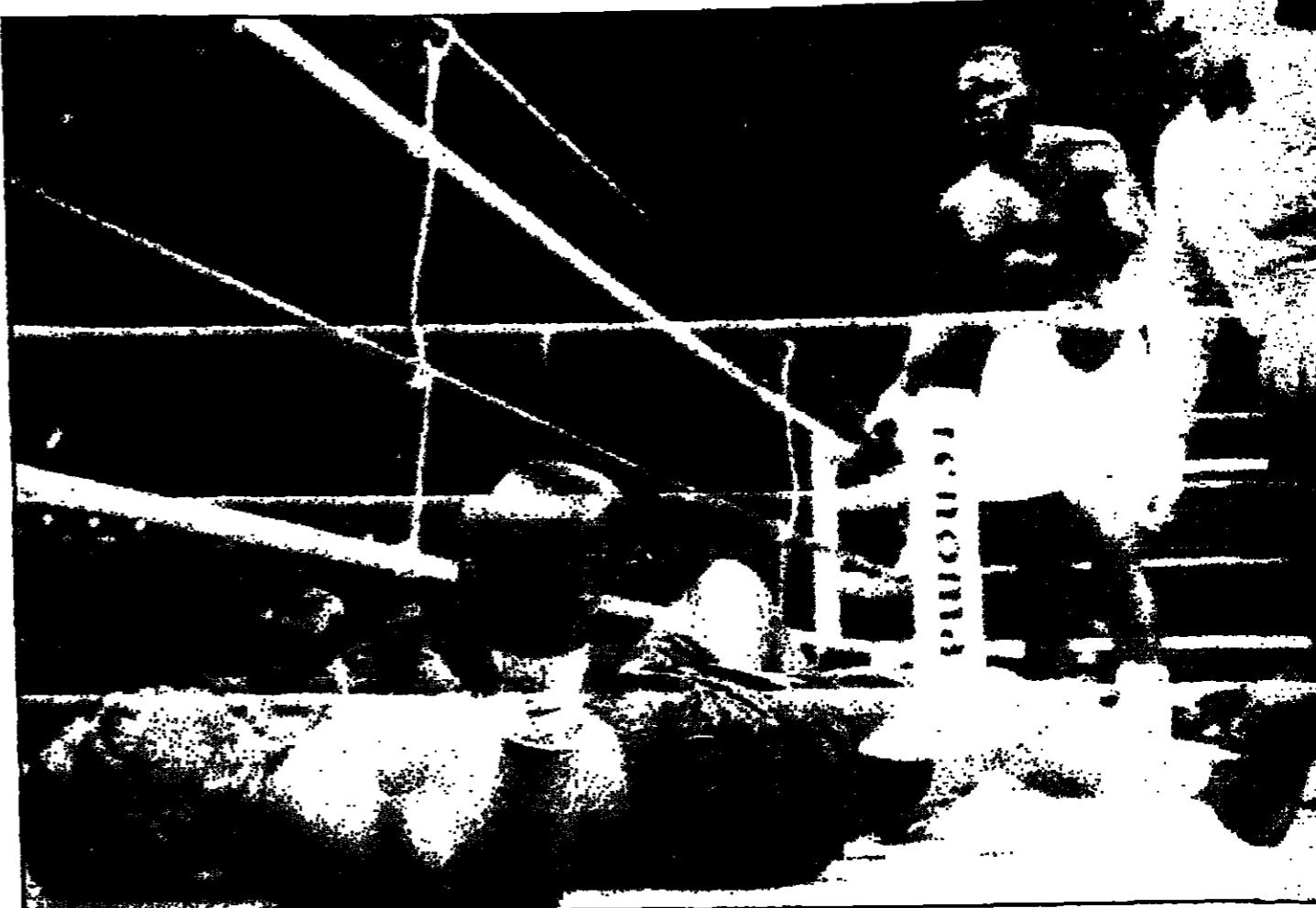
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ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS





Tyson looks down on Douglas after knocking him down in the 8th round. (Reuter wirephoto)



The referee counts out Tyson as Douglas looks on in the 10th round. (Reuter wirephoto)

Douglas KOs Tyson; result not accepted

Boxing officials hold heavyweight title in limbo

TOKYO, Feb 11. (Reuter): James "Buster" Douglas stunned the boxing world with a tenth round knockout over seemingly invincible heavyweight champion "Iron Mike" Tyson at the Tokyo Dome today.

However, two of boxing's ruling organisations held the championship in limbo, after a protest launched by Tyson's camp.

Tyson may have knocked out Douglas two rounds earlier, the World Boxing Council and the World Boxing Association officials said at a news conference.

WBC president Jose Sulaiman of Mexico said the result of the match is suspended until the WBC executive committee can meet in Mexico City the week of Feb 20. WBA reached a similar decision.

The fight, however, was quite dramatic.

Tyson, undefeated in his previous 37 professional bouts, was floored with a right uppercut to the head almost half way through the round. He staggered up, mouthpiece dangling from his bruised lips, but the count was over.

It was a four-punch combination, jab, right-hand, jab, uppercut... all four punches were lethal," the new champion told a news conference. "It was an accumulation."

Douglas, 29, clambered into the ring a defiant underdog for the scheduled 12-round fight against an opponent whose awesome power once seemed unstoppable.

Asked if his stunning victory meant the age of Tyson was over, Douglas said: "I don't know about that. I'm just saying James Douglas has just begun."

On prospects for a rematch with Tyson, he said: "That would be in due time."

A shaken Tyson cancelled his

planned news conference and later swept out of the stadium surrounded by bodyguards who angrily pushed reporters away.

John Johnson, Douglas' manager, was asked later about a possible match with Evander Holyfield, the man lined up to meet Tyson had he won in Tokyo.

He said he had talked in Douglas' dressing room after the fight with New York financier Donald Trump, and agreed to get together with him back in New York to discuss the matter.

Douglas dominated most rounds with flurries of combination punching, with rights to the head doing the most damage.

By the fifth round, Tyson's left eye was swollen and by the end of the fight was nearly closed.

Tyson's best moment came in the eighth when he sent Douglas sprawling to the canvas with a right uppercut only a few seconds before the bell. Douglas managed to scramble to his feet and dominated the next two rounds.

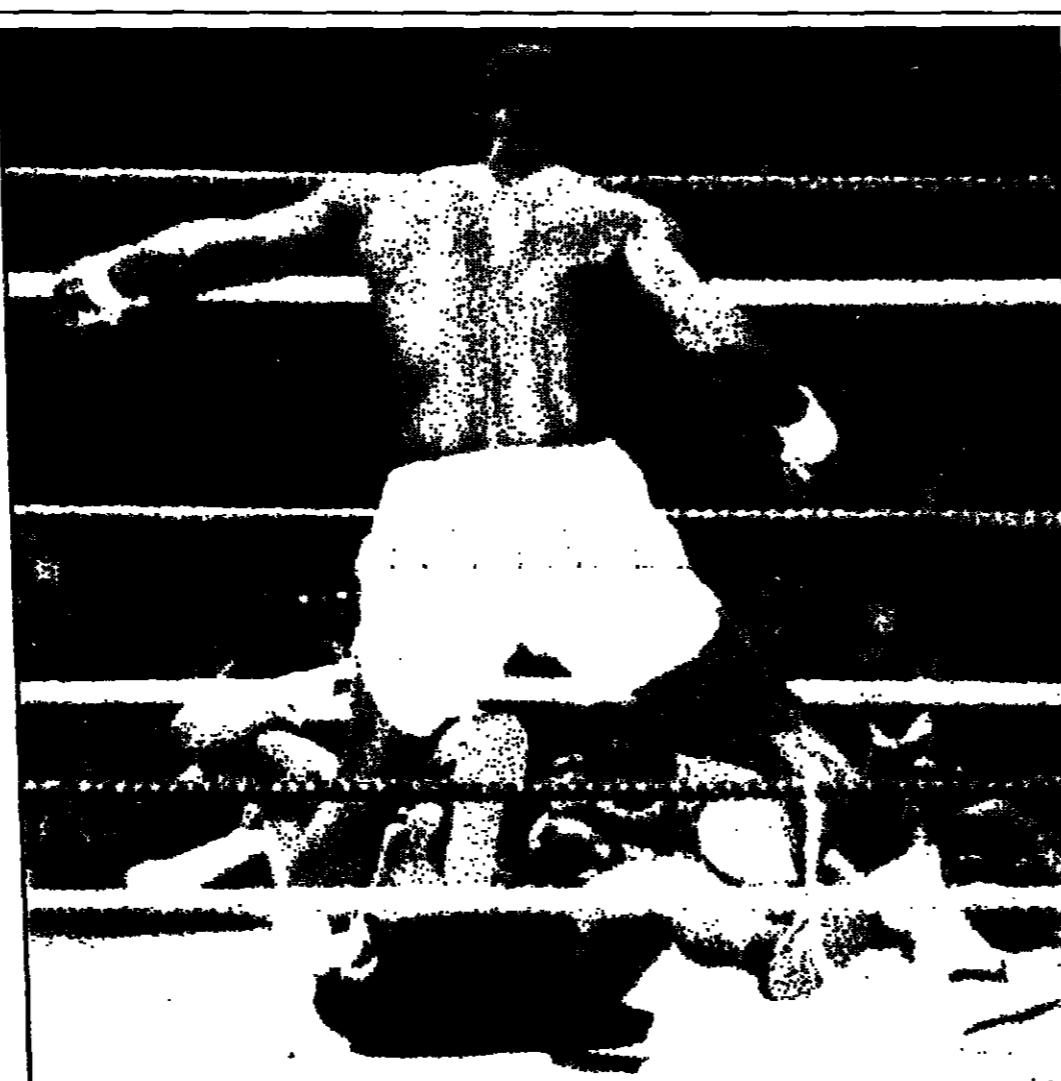
"I feel good," an overjoyed Douglas bellowed to reporters as supporters and newsmen mobbed him in the ring.

"Thank you, Japan, for making me feel at home... I love you. You treated me well."

Douglas, with a 29-win four-loss and one-draw record, was only the fourth ranking heavyweight contender but clearly had devised a strategy that would make him the first in 10 challengers to take away Tyson's crown.

Using his 10 cm (four inch) height advantage and longer reach, Douglas went on the offensive from the first round with left-right combination punching to Tyson's head, leading with his left and following up with a powerful right.

In the first three rounds Tyson seemed more puzzled than hurt by the attacks and frequently



James "Buster" Douglas looks down on Tyson after flooring him. (Reuter wirephoto)

went into clinches.

He came back in the fourth with rights to the body and left hooks. A fast flurry of blows just before the bell gave that round to him.

However in the fifth it was

clear the undefeated champion's left eye had been damaged and it began to swell.

The fifth and sixth rounds were slow, with both fighters looking tired.

In the next two rounds Tyson

came back, repeatedly landing jabs on Douglas' head and body.

Despite his fall in the eighth, the challenger came back in the ninth, hammering Tyson with more left-right combinations. By the end of that round Tyson's eye

was completely closed.

In the tenth Douglas came in for the kill, backing Tyson into a corner, and sending him crashing into the canvas.

The knockdown was officially timed at one minute 23 seconds into the round.

Douglas said he dedicated the fight to his mother who died recently.

Asked about his own knockdown by Tyson, Douglas said: "I was... surprised. It was just a good shot. I wasn't really hurt."

He added, "he (Tyson) was very sharp. He was on. It was just that I was better."

Although organisers expanded the Tokyo Dome seating for the occasion to 63,000, estimated attendance was only about 40,000.

Nevertheless, Douglas was guaranteed some \$3 million for his day's work, while Tyson's guaranteed consolation prize was reported at around \$9 million.

Notable upsets in heavyweight title fights:

Jim Braddock defeated Max Baer at New York City, 15-round decision, June 13, 1935.

Ingemar Johansson stopped Floyd Patterson at New York City, third round, June 26, 1959.

Muhammad Ali stopped Sonny Liston at Miami Beach, Florida, seventh round, Feb 23, 1964.

George Foreman stopped Joe Frazier at Kingston, Jamaica, second round, Jan 22, 1973.

Muhammad Ali knocked out George Foreman at Kinshasa, Zaire, eighth round, Oct 30, 1974.

Leon Spinks defeated Muhammad Ali at Las Vegas, 15-round decision, Feb 15, 1978.

James "Buster" Douglas knocked out Mike Tyson at Tokyo, 10th round, Feb 11, 1990.

WBA and WBC reject decision

TOKYO, Feb 11. (Reuter): The two major world boxing organisations have said they will not recognise the result of today's world heavyweight title bout in which James Douglas knocked out champion Mike Tyson.

The World Boxing Association (WBA) and World Boxing Council (WBC) said they had withdrawn recognition because of a controversial incident in the eighth round when Tyson floored Douglas.

Douglas recovered to knock out Tyson in the 10th round but the Tyson camp later claimed the eighth round count had been slow.

WBC chief Jose Sulaiman told reporters: "As of today, no-one is heavyweight champion until February 20 when I meet with the WBC executive committee."

WBA officials said they were withdrawing recognition of Tyson.

The WBA officials said referee Octavio Meyrin had ignored the usual practice of taking over the official timekeeper's count which starts the moment a boxer hits the canvas.

They said, instead, he had started his own count which meant Douglas had been down for 12 or 13 seconds. "I made a mistake," referee Sanchez said. "The count lasted longer than ten seconds."

WBA president Gilberto Mendoza said his group was likely to come to a joint agreement with the WBC.

"A rematch is absolutely mandatory," Sulaiman said. "I'm almost sure that both Douglas and Tyson want to meet again."

Tyson said of the eighth round knockdown: "I thought that was a pretty decent shot and I thought the referee had counted him out and the eighth was over. Then the ref waved us on."

Asked if he still thought of himself as world champion he replied: "Absolutely yes."

While no Douglas camp representative was visible at the front of the room, his promoter Peyton Sher was present.

"I think it stinks," Sher said when told of the boxing authorities' decision.

"He beat Mike Tyson every round," Douglas' manager John Johnson said. "After getting knocked down he kicked his ass."

Told that at the end one official had Tyson ahead on points, one had Douglas ahead and another had the fight as a draw, Johnson scornfully shot back: "Those judges shouldn't be judges. We thought he (Douglas) won every round."

Douglas seeks 'people's championship'

JAMES "BUSTER" DOUGLAS is seeking a "people's championship" fight with leading heavyweight contender Evander Holyfield, Douglas's manager John Johnson said today.

"The WBA and WBC and (Tyson promoter) Don King can all go to hell as far as I'm concerned," Johnson told Reuters.

He said he would add the International Boxing Federation (IBF) to that list if they joined in the WBA and WBC stance. The IBF was not represented at the news conference where the WBA and WBC announced their position.

Johnson denied any intention of having a rematch with Tyson before fighting Holyfield.

WBC president Jose Sulaiman said at the news conference he thought a rematch "was absolutely mandatory."

"I'm almost sure that both Douglas and Tyson want to meet," he said.

But Johnson said that while the Douglas camp had expected to work with King to arrange a rematch after a bout with Holyfield, plans for that were off in light of the WBA and WBC action.

King and Tyson were on the dais at the news conference, while Douglas and Johnson were not.

Had Tyson won, he would have faced Holyfield on June 18 in Atlantic City in a deal expected to gross as much as \$75 to \$80 million.

A Douglas-Holyfield fight would probably

bring far less — with no cut for King.

In January, King said it would be a great tragedy if Tyson lost to Douglas, referring to the effect on the fight with Holyfield.

"It would be a great tragedy. If he loses, there is no match between Tyson and Holyfield... the contract becomes invalid."

The Douglas victory also made a shambles of plans by flamboyant promoter King for a "freedom fight" in Berlin. Today before the Tyson-Douglas bout King said plans for that were progressing and that he expected it to be Tyson's next title match after Holyfield.

He had hoped for a September or October date, with contender Greg Page the likely challenger.



Douglas (left) knocks out Tyson in 10th round. (Reuter wirephoto)

Round 1

The fighters trade left jabs in the opening seconds. Tyson trying to get inside and Douglas moving away. Tyson lands a soft left uppercut and Douglas responds with a combination to the top of Tyson's head. Tyson sends a left to the body and misses a right to the head. The fighters were warned to watch their heads. Douglas connects with a soft right to the head. Douglas lands a jab to the body and follows with a right-left to the head. Tyson walks into an uppercut, with no visible damage. Tyson lands a left to the chin as the round ends.

Round 2

Douglas ties up Tyson whenever the champion moves inside. Douglas lands two lefts and a right to the head. Douglas connects with a right to the head and Tyson counters with a right to the head. Douglas lunges and misses with a left, but

Douglas lands a hard left to the belly. Douglas pops a combination to the head, but Tyson drills a jab to the chest in response. Douglas lands a four-punch combination, forcing Tyson to move backward and cover up. Tyson seemed confused as the bell sounded.

Round 3

Tyson charges out and backs Douglas into the ropes, but Douglas again ties up the champion. Tyson connects with a left to the body and Douglas counters with a right to the head. Douglas lands another combination to the top of Tyson's head. Tyson begins to show his frustration. Tyson lands a glancing right, but Douglas ties him up. Douglas connects with a right to the head as Tyson continues to miss with his punches. Tyson scores with a left to the body, but Douglas jabs and moves away. Douglas continues to jab and tie up Tyson as the

champion moves inside.

Round 4

Douglas still appears quicker and more accurate in the early going, continuing to pop away with jabs. Tyson tries to work inside, but Douglas moves away. Douglas pops two jabs to the top of Tyson's head, and the champion misses with a left hook. There was little action as the fighters repeatedly clinched. Douglas nips a right to the head and a stinging jab as Tyson is short with a left. Tyson misses two lunging left hooks. Douglas connects with a solid left and Tyson shoves Douglas back as the round ends.

Round 5

Tyson moved to the middle of the ring before the bell sounded. Douglas jabs to keep the champion away and backs off quickly, using his superior reach to his

advantage. Douglas connects with a short right to the head and Tyson counters with a left to the body. Douglas lands a left that seemed to hurt the champion. Douglas lands a hard right to the head and Tyson is wild with a left. Douglas continues to tie up Tyson inside. Tyson's swollen left eye begins to close. Tyson lands a left-right combo to the body and Douglas ties him up. The fighters trade punches after the bell.

Round 6

Tyson's corner works on the champion's eye between rounds, applying ice. The fighters trade left uppercuts and clinch. Tyson drills a short right to the chin and Douglas ties him up inside. Tyson is unable to put together any effective punches. Tyson pops a left jab that bounces off Douglas' shoulder and the challenger counters with a jab to the head. Douglas, showing more mobility, continues to jab and move. Tyson misses with a right, then with a lunging left.

Round 7

Tyson is warned for a low blow as a right lands on Douglas' belt. The challenger pops two lefts to the head. Tyson moves inside and Douglas again ties him up, doing an excellent job keeping the champion off-balance. Douglas lands a right to the chin. Tyson drills a right to the body. Douglas lands a right to the head and a left to the body. Tyson knocks down Douglas with a right uppercut. Douglas barely beats the count as the bell sounds.

Round 8

Douglas opens with two jabs and Tyson goes to the body with a three-

punch combination. Douglas misses with a wild right lead and Tyson narrowly misses with a left hook. Douglas appears to have slowed down from previous rounds, missing often as Tyson attacks the body. Tyson pops a right off the back of Douglas' head and the challenger moves away. Douglas lands two left-left jabs that bounce off Tyson's head. Tyson drills a right to the body. Douglas lands a right to the head and a left to the body. Tyson knocks down Douglas with a right uppercut. Douglas barely beats the count as the bell sounds.

Round 9

Tyson begins to stalk Douglas, who throws an early punch that nearly hits the referee. Tyson drills a right to the head, causing the tiring challenger's legs to wobble. Douglas, whose legs seem rubbery, ties the champion up mid-

way through the round. Douglas pulls himself together with a combination that seems to sting Tyson. The champion now seems arm-weary, as both fighters are draped over the ropes. Douglas lands a right lead and a left jab as Tyson moves backward. Douglas dominates the final 30 seconds as Tyson looks more like the tired fighter.

Round 10

Both fighters miss with rights and Douglas moves away. Douglas lands a right off the top of Tyson's head. Douglas sends three stinging jabs to Tyson's face and the champion retreats. Douglas scores with a left, then a wicked right uppercut turns Tyson's head. Douglas lands a right flat on his back with a left uppercut. Tyson rolls over on his hands at the count of five, but is unable to beat the count of referee Octavio Meyrin. Tyson is counted out at 1:23 of the round.

Monroes,
Baggs meet
in title
decider

WITH only 3 weeks of the 1989-90 regular season still remaining the top three teams in the Mouschel Monday Men's Darts League are almost certainly finalised. The only unknown is in what order they will finish. The last few games have not shown any sign of weakness in either Baggs or Monroes, the only two real contenders for this season's title, and the tension was heightened still further this week as both came through difficult matches with emphatic 6-0 wins. Everything is likely to depend on tonight's game when Baggs host their arch-rivals in a do-or-die affair, that will be no place for the squeamish or faint-hearted.

Monroes come into the big game having plucked the Tyne Tees Phoenixes clean with a 10-0 sweep, Peter Zobrist roasting Paul Coutts 2-0 with a 140, as the whole side threw good steady darts. Baggs' visit to Cotter House was almost as successful, giving away just two legs in a fixture that has traditionally been a much closer contest. Brendan Richardson did get 3-0's as he went down to Bader Radi, as did Mohammed Al Qabandi in beating Peter Granowitz. One of the emerging stars for Baggs is Jackie Moles who has now played twice, and won twice in the men's game, as both Kelvin Dicks and Bill Morton will testify.

Having gained their first point last week, Stars of the Year obviously found the sensation enjoyable, as they badgered Ragamuffin into another 3-3 draw. The Stars were never ahead, but fought gamely to snatch the final monkey move leg to secure point number 2. David Gardner made his second consecutive win and Noel Creanney a 99 finish although as narrowly lost to Wayne McEneen who scored a 140.

The final match found Stars trouncing, T.C.E. 6-0 although their revised now/too late to prevent Campanologists from taking third place. Tony Robinson continued his own fine season with 3 more high scores.

There was no change in the Mouschel Monday Ladies League, the two matches played ending at 2-2. Marlyns almost had a total disaster going 0-2 down to Tyne Teasers, before salvaging a point. Diane Sime getting 2 mm trebles for the second time this year and the Nightlights - Cotter House drew help, neither side as they both clinched the League third spot. Featherlights were once more out of action, and it would seem that Marlyns main hope of winning would be if the 8 games in the 16 days remaining to the end of the League season proved too much for the Featherlight girls.

Hyderabad
defeat MCC
by 37 runs



Kareem: scored 35

HYDERABAD Welfare Cricket Association (HWCA) beat Meriden Cricket Club (MCC) by 37 runs in a friendly cricket match on Friday.

HWCA skipper Murtaza Qadri won the toss and elected to bat. HWCA scored 189 in their 30 overs. In reply MCC were only able to get 152 runs.

HWCA were given a good start by Manju and Iftikhar, who put on 26 and 25 runs respectively. Kareem boosted his team's total by scoring 35 off only 24 balls while Jamil chipped in with 23.

For MCC, Rizwan and Khalid took two wickets each.

MCC's Amer hit 38 while Lissat scored an unbeaten 37 but the other batsmen, except for Rizwan (26), failed to take up the challenge.

Kareem was later declared Man of the Match for his excellent batting.

Bin Khalifa scores easy Desert Challenge victory

IN the recent BP 2000 Dubai Rally, the first round of the 1990 Marlboro Desert Challenge, Suhal Bin Khalifa Al Maktoum's victory again provided the proof that Land Rover is practically unbeatable in the Dubai Desert terrain. Time after time be it a BP 2000 event or the Massaf 4 WD in the Emirates, Suhal or his brother Ahmed have taken victory in their locally prepared Land Rover.

The event which marked the start of the 1990 four-wheel-drive rally season was widely regarded as the toughest yet in the Marlboro Desert Challenge series which is now in its fourth year. The stages were very sandy, twisting, and very bumpy, and with an unusually high ratio of special stages as opposed to road section. The total distance of the BP 2000 Dubai rally was 372.22 kms. Of this 256.35 kms made up the 12 special stages.

With a field of 26 entering the prologue on

Thursday 1st February, the event also marked the largest entry yet in the Marlboro Desert Challenge series, which is now established as a major Gulf four-wheel-drive championship. For the first time saloon four-wheel-drive vehicles were entered into a BP 2000 event, but they can not secure championship points as the series is primarily designed for off-road vehicles.

Indeed, the saloon four-wheel-drive vehicles were the headline makers in the prologue. Three times middle East Champion Mohammad Bin Sulayem was entered in a Toyota GT4, but would not finish the stage following a blown engine to his vehicle. However, Michel Saleh in his Audi Quattro A4 would take the fastest time as he had predicted beforehand.

The following morning (Friday, February 2) the remaining 26 vehicles Bin-Sulayem the

only non-saloon — set off from the Al Nasr Club at 8.00 am towards the Al Ain Road where all the stages were concentrated. From this point on the day would belong to Suhal Bin Khalifa in the first six stages he clocked the fastest times with relative ease.

Running in strong second overall position was Qatar's Saeed Al Hajri, who was piloting a Ford Bronco for the first time in a Middle East event. The car made a very promising debut and looked set to secure the runner-up slot until the tenth special stage when the front prop shaft broke. This mishap would see Al Hajri finishing in sixth overall position.

For the Marlboro Desert Challenge Champion Abbas Al Mosawi and his Marlboro Mitsubishi team, for once they would not be on the winners podium. On the first special stage, Al Mosawi's Pajero developed

problems with the right rear trailing arm resulting in five minute time penalty for lateness into the next stage. Further time delaying difficulties would occur with a broken front top right wishbone. "With these problems we decided to take it easy in the rally to conserve the car, and just to get points for the championships", said Rallart Team Technical Manager Janne Lindstrom, whose car would finish fourth overall.

Local driver Mohammed Swaidan powered his way through the field to finish in second overall position, despite losing six minutes earlier on due to a puncture. Third overall was Dubai's Mohammed Omari in another locally prepared Land Rover. However, Suhal Bin Khalifa had at this point built up a comfortable lead, and with the difficulties facing Al Hajri and the Marlboro Mitsubishi driver Al Mosawi — his victory was a comfortable one.

Moody wins Man of the Match award

Aussies rout Pakistanis

BRISBANE, Australia, Feb 11. (Reuter): Australia scored their third highest total in one-day limited-over cricket to beat Pakistan by 67 runs in a World Series Cup match at the Brisbane Cricket Ground today.

The Australians went into overdrive from the fifth over of their innings and powered to 300 for five from 50 overs.

Set six runs an over to complete two wins in a row at the weekend after defeating Sri Lanka yesterday, Pakistan kept pace with the required rate but lost wickets in rapid succession before being bowled out for 233 in the 40th over.

Australia have scored more runs only twice in their 19-year one-day game history.

South Australia's Adelaide Oval was the venue for their biggest score — 323 for three against Sri Lanka in January 1985, while in February 1983 they amassed 302 for eight against New Zealand at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Man of the Match Tom Moody, who had his best innings in eight one-day matches with 89 runs off 82 balls in 102 minutes, from Australia gave a "complete team effort."

"It is unusual for someone not to get a reasonably big 100 in a score of 300," he said.

The 24-year-old right-hander was the dominant force in an outstanding first wicket partnership of 134 off just 162 deliveries, the equal third highest on record, with Mark Taylor, who took a personal limited over best with 66 runs.

The two most inexperienced limited over players in the side, dubbed the Laurel and Hardy of Australian cricket because of Moody's height and Taylor's stockiness, thumped Pakistan to all parts of the ground and laid the foundation for the total.

Moody said: "Tails (Taylor) thought I had caught it so he began to walk. But you



Imran: failed to take his team to victory despite hitting an unbeaten 82

partnership in 52 minutes from 85 balls. The 100 came up in 84 minutes off 92 deliveries and the 150 partnership in 106 minutes from 161 balls.

Australia's stumps had started with controversy when Taylor appeared to be caught in the gully by Javed Miandad from Wasim Akram's bowling when he was on one.

Taylor began to walk but his partners came and went in quick succession as brilliant Australian out-fielding brought three run outs and some spectacular catches.

Steve Waugh, Moody and Allan Border produced magnificent throws to run out Ijaz Ahmed, Salim Malik and Tauseef Ahmed from Rameez Raja's bowling when he was on one.

Imran, who made 82, held the ball to smash 20 runs off the first two overs but they, Rameez Raja and Saeed Anwar all fell before Pakistan reached 100.

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Douglas world champion, sans title

James 'Buster' Douglas raises his arms in victory after knocking out Mike Tyson in a world heavyweight boxing title fight in Tokyo. The world boxing officials, however, declared the title vacant. (Reuter wirephoto)
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SPORTS BRIEFS

British soccer

LONDON, Feb 11. (Reuter): Result of an English football League Cup semifinal first leg soccer match today.

Not. Forest 2 Coventry 1 (halftime 1-0)

Scorers: Nottingham — Nigel Clough (37th minute penalty), Stuart Pearce (79th)

Coventry — Steve Livingstone (72nd)

Attendance: 26,153

Athletes honoured

PHOENIX, Feb 11. (AP): Swimmer Janet Evans and hurdler Roger Kingdom, who set world records in 1989 following gold medal-winning performances at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, were named 1989 Sportsman and Sportsman of the Year yesterday by the US Olympic Committee.

One change

LONDON, Feb 11. (Reuter): Five Nations leaders England announced one change today for the rugby union match against Wales at Twickenham yesterday. Centre Simon Halliday replaces Mark Bailey on the right wing in the only change from the side who crushed champions France 26-7 in Paris last weekend.

Kansas tennis

WICHITA, Kansas, Feb 11. (Reuter): Unseeded Dinky van Rensburg of South Africa yesterday earned a berth against top-seeded Nathalie Tauziat of France in the final of the \$150,000 Kansas Women's Tennis Tournament.

England bowler

LONDON, Feb 11. (Reuter): Gloucestershire fast bowler David Lawrence, 21, called up today for the England A team's cricket tour of Zimbabwe, 26, will replace Chris Lewis of Leicestershire who was summoned to the West Indies to join the full England side. A week after Ricky Elcock pulled out through injury.

Italian soccer

ROME, Feb 11. (Reuter): Results of Italian First Division soccer matches today:

Ascoli	1	Bari	1
Cesena	0	Atalanta	0
Cremonese	2	Bologna	0
Inter	1	Lazio	0
Lecce	1	Verona	0
AC Milan	3	Napoli	0
Roma	1	Inter	0
Sampdoria	0	Genoa	0
Udinese	1	Fiorentina	0

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hubara Centre Bridge Club game played on Saturday:

N-3
1. Nabil Akef & Drexler
2. Nabil Akef & Dr Omar
3. Carsten & Merchant
E-W
1. Lollo Murthwaite & Dora Materny
2. Rassam & Aref
3. Rawles brothers

'Joint German team possible by 1992'

BONN, Feb 11. (Reuter): A top East German sports official acknowledged for the first time today that the two Germanys may be in a position to combine their powerful sporting talents into one team before the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

"It is possible that things will happen so fast that a joint team could come about by 1992, perhaps even earlier," East German National Olympic Committee (NOC) vice-president Georg Zorowka told Reuters at a World Cup swimming meeting in Bonn.

But he added the decision would depend on the outcome of polls in East Germany next month.

"This is something we sports people can only decide as voters in political elections. I believe we have to go carefully with such developments," Zorowka said.

The polls are to decide a future government for the former communist-state whose power crumbled after a peaceful people's uprising late last year. Plans for political unification of the two countries are picking up pace by the day.

West German Olympic chief Willi Daume said earlier this week that International Olympic Committee (IOC) chief would not stand in the way of a combined German team and he did not rule out it may happen in time for the Barcelona games.

The initial reaction to Daume's remarks from East German NOC chief Guenther Heinze was frosty. He said talk of a united German team went too far and East German athletes were preparing to compete in Barcelona as an East German team.

But the comments from Zorowka, a top figure in East German swimming — a sport which would be revolutionised by a joint German team — showed the East has not completely ruled out the idea of joining with the West in the next two years.

The Germans fielded joint teams at the 1956, 1960 and 1964 Olympics before entering separately for the first time in 1968.

Trenary takes third US title



Trenary flies to her third US crown. (Reuter wirephoto)

SALT-LAKE CITY, Feb 11. (UPI): Jill Trenary combined five clean triple jumps with her usual elegant artistry yesterday to out-skate her younger, supposedly more athletic challengers and win her third US Figure Skating Championship.

In contrast, Kristi Yamaguchi, 18, who won her second US pairs title with Rudi Galindo Friday night, fell twice attempting to land six triples during the free skating, or long, programme and had to settle for her second straight silver medal.

Tonya Harding, 19, the 1989 bronze medallist, fared even worse. Suffering from the flu, she did just two of six planned triples and only one of them was clean. The sub-par performance dropped her to 10th in yesterday's long programme and seventh in the overall standings.

Trenary, 21, exhibited a new-found determination and grace under pressure during yesterday's programme, skated to Middle Eastern melodies and a salsa.

Their attitude stemmed from Trenary's performance in the finale of the 1989 nationals and the world championships a month later. Both Yamaguchi and Harding clearly out-skated her in the free skating finale at Baltimore, and in Paris, Trenary managed to land just one triple jump.

She also started out shaky at this competition. Though she won the opening round of competitions, her school figures were not up to her usual standards. A day later, she appeared extremely nervous as she fell once and skated flatly through her original, or short, programme.

Agassi to face Witsken

Mayotte stuns McEnroe

MILAN, Italy, Feb 11. (Reuter): Tim Mayotte mauled second seed John McEnroe in straight sets yesterday to earn a clash with world number one Ivan Lendl in the final of an ATP Grand Prix Indoor Tennis Championship.

Fifth seed Mayotte, who combined a strong serve and solid play at the net, capitalised on sloppy play by fellow American McEnroe to win 6-4, 6-4.

Lendl bounded back from a slow start to beat unseeded American Pete Sampras 3-6, 6-0, 6-3, prevailing despite the irritation of heckling and noise from the 8,000-strong crowd in the palazzetti arena.

The Czechoslovak top seed stopped playing after someone shouted during his second serve at the start of the second set and took a five-minute break after complaining to the umpire.

Mayotte served flawlessly against McEnroe on the fast artificial surface and broke for a 3-1 lead in the first set.

McEnroe fought back and reeled off the next three games but ceded the advantage by repeatedly failing to come up with the big shots on crucial points.

The turning point in the second set came in the second set in the sixth game when McEnroe wasted four break-

points. Mayotte eventually captured the game for a commanding 4-2 lead.

McEnroe behaved better than he played with few glimpses of the sort of outburst which brought about his defeat in the Australian Open last month.

Second seed Andre Agassi will face unseeded fellow American Todd Witsken in the final of the \$225,000 San Francisco tennis championships after both posted straight-set wins yesterday.

Agassi needed just 58 minutes to demolish fifth-seeded fellow American Jim Grabb, winning their semifinal match 6-2, 6-2.

The 56th-ranked Witsken defeated unseeded fellow American Joey Rive, ranked 142, 6-4, 7-6 to advance to his first career singles final.

Agassi, ranked eighth, was merciless as he passed the 30th-ranked Grabb at will and forced numerous errors from his attacking opponent.

Agassi broke Grabb twice in the first set, in the third and fifth games — the second time on a Grabb double fault.

Agassi jumped ahead in the second set with a first game service break on a backhand return off Grabb's short second serve.

After that he streaked passing shots and return winners past the hapless Grabb. He took a 5-2 lead on another break when Grabb missed an easy volley and served out the match.

"My main objective was to be the aggressor, hit my shots and go for the gusto," Agassi said.

"Everything he came up with I feel I had an answer for."

Grabb said: "He's like (Jimmy) Connors only it's accentuated even more. The ball is back on my racket so much quicker than when I play anyone else."

Witsken started slow against Rive, who jumped out to a 3-0 first-set lead.

Witsken came up with a break in the seventh game which appeared to restore his confidence and he began answering Rive's volleys with stinging passing shots and pinpoint lobbs.

A volley error cost Rive another break to trail 5-4 and Witsken served out the set with a backhand winner.

Both players fought to hold serve in the second set, with Rive fending off eight break points to force a tiebreak.

Rive moved ahead 3-2, but three volley errors cost him the lead and Witsken went ahead 5-3.

Rive pulled to 5-4, but Witsken took the next three points to earn his place in today's final.



Tim Mayotte

Jansher outplays Jahangir

TORONTO, Feb 11. (Reuter): World champion Jansher Khan of Pakistan ended compatriot Jahangir Khan's domination of the Toronto Invitational squash tournament with a semifinal victory over his principal yesterday.

Jansher topped Jahangir, winner of this tournament for the past seven years, 17-15, 15-12, 15-9 to reach today's final where he will face Chris Dittmar of Australia.

The third-ranked Dittmar, who defeated Jansher earlier in the week in round-robin play, cruised past Ross Norman of New Zealand in the other semifinal 15-10, 15-8, 15-11.

The match between the current and former world champions was not the battle that had been expected, lasting 73 minutes — short by their previous standards.

The first game was a 31-minute fight for supremacy with Jahangir reaching game point at 14-13, only to lose it in the tiebreak 17-15.

His failure to convert that first game point appeared to take much of the fight out of the defending champion, though he battled back from 6-12 to 12-12 in the second game before Jansher ran off three straight points to take a 2-0 lead.

Jahangir led the third game 8-6, but his errors increased and Jansher took eight of the next nine points.

At 14-9 Jansher claimed victory in a drop shot that the seven-time champion made no attempt to play.

Rudolph swims to record

BONN, Feb 11. (Reuter): East German Nils Rudolph clocked a run of world-class performances when he swam the world's fastest short-course time for the 50 metres butterfly at a World Cup meeting yesterday.

Rudolph, who beat American Olympic champion Matt Biondi over 50 freestyle in East Berlin last Tuesday, clocked 24.14 seconds in the heats to have 0.11 seconds off the world best set by American Pablo Morales in Bonn two years ago.

The 24-year-old electrical engineer later went within two hundredths of a second of repeating the feat when he clocked 24.16 to take the final win ahead of Spaniard Carlos Sanchez.

Sanchez clocked 24.60, with China's Sheng Jiangang third in 24.75.

"I didn't realize I was so close to the record in the heats," Rudolph said afterwards. "Otherwise I would have gone harder instead of slowing up at the end."

Rudolph's best time was the highlight of the second day of action in the 25-metre frankenbad pool.

But after swimming the fastest time in the 100 metres freestyle heats earlier in the day, the towering Rudolph failed to match his form in the final and finished fourth behind Olympic bronze medallist Stephen Caron in a blander finish.

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